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ABSTRACT

This document presents a summary of states' issues on aging and a catalogue of the economic, social, and health issues of importance as expressed by older Americans. The information contained in the report was gathered from each of 50 State mini-White House Conferences on Aging held in preparation for the 1981 White House Conference on Aging. An overview section summarizes states' issues by dimension (economic, social, health) and examines the states' recommendations for improvements. The report notes that states suggested reducing the cost of services as the best way to improve the economic status of the elderly, perceived the elderly as performing multiple roles in improving their social condition, and recommended research and development issues to improve the health condition of the elderly. The methodology for summarizing state recommendations is explained, including the development of a model to analyze state issues and the guidelines for coding information. The majority of the document consists of recommendations discussed alphabetically by state. For each state, the concerns of the elderly are compared with nationwide concerns, improvements to be achieved through government and nongovernment sources are listed, assistance to the elderly through existing organizations is discussed, and suggested resources needed to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly are given. (NRB)

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[COMMITTEE PRINT]

SUMMARY OF STATES' ISSUES ON AGING

AN INFORMATION PAPER BY THE
GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE
TO THE
CHAIRMAN
OF THE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
NINETY-EIGHTH CONGRESS
SECOND SESSION

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FOREWORD

In 1980, State Conferences on Aging were held in preparation for the 1981 White House Conference on Aging. These conferences allowed younger and older citizens, organizations, academicians and government leaders to voice their concerns regarding older Americans within each State. These concerns became the issues and focus of the 1981 White House Conference on Aging.

The information gathered by the States is important because it presents a grassroot opinion about the needs of this special population. As the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Select Committee on Aging, we recognized the need to preserve information developed by the States and are pleased to present this summary compiled by the United States General Accounting Office (GAO).

The report is a catalogue of economic, social and health issues of importance as expressed by older Americans. The data used was gathered during each of the 50 State mini-White House Conferences on Aging held in preparation for the 1981 White House Conference on Aging. The intent of this report was to produce a document that highlighted each State's senior citizen viewpoint from not only an individual State but a national perspective. Such information can and will provide a meaningful basis for planning and development in the area of aging and act as a baseline for future comparison.

We wish to acknowledge the tremendous efforts of Mr. William Laurie of GAO who coordinated the compiling of this report. The model used to analyze the issues was created by Mr. Wilbert Ammann, and the extensive analysis of the 4,000 issues developed by the States was performed by Ms. Margaret Sommers, Ms. Marion Becker (deceased), and Ms. Theresa Walter of GAO. We would also like to acknowledge the efforts of Ms. Sheila Duffy of the Committee staff who supervised the compiling of this document. Their efforts made possible the publication of this report.

EDWARD R. ROYBAL,
Chairman.

MATTHEW J. RINALDO,
Ranking Minority Member.

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An Overview

Using our model, we first looked to see what dimension had the greatest number of issues nationally. We determined that most of the issues fell into the economic dimension (2,043), followed by the social dimension (1,346) and then health (639), as shown in the following table. Of a total of 4,028 recommendations, 51 percent of the recommendations concern economic issues, 33 percent social issues, and 16 percent health issues. Economic concerns are dominant in 36 States and make up 60 percent or more of the issues in California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Wyoming. In these States, economic issues account from between 60 percent to 78 percent of the recommendations. Social concerns are dominant in 12 states and make up more than 50 percent of the issues in Alabama, New Hampshire, and Vermont. In these States, social issues range from between 53 percent to 58 percent of the issues. Health was dominant (42 percent) in only one State, Virginia. Florida's concerns are distributed uniformly.

SUMMARY OF STATES' ISSUES BY DIMENSION

States	Health		Economic		Social		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Alabama	12	15	25	31	44	54	81	100
Alaska	5	12	24	57	13	31	42	100
Arizona	16	18	39	42	37	40	92	100
Arkansas	18	29	20	33	23	38	61	100
California	7	10	49	71	13	19	69	100
Colorado	43	26	85	51	38	23	166	100
Connecticut	9	12	50	64	19	24	78	100
Delaware	8	18	25	57	11	25	44	100
Florida	6	30	7	35	7	35	20	100
Georgia	11	17	31	46	25	37	67	100
Hawaii	14	16	64	74	9	10	87	100
Idaho	5	16	19	61	7	23	31	100
Illinois	2	4	32	73	10	23	44	100
Indiana	12	20	31	52	17	28	60	100
Iowa	16	25	25	39	23	36	64	100
Kansas	20	13	93	60	43	27	156	100
Kentucky	17	18	37	39	41	43	95	100
Louisiana	11	11	52	51	39	38	102	100
Maine	2	3	40	56	29	41	71	100
Maryland	26	22	65	55	27	23	118	100
Massachusetts	16	14	46	39	56	47	118	100
Michigan	23	15	66	45	59	40	148	100
Minnesota	26	21	55	45	42	34	123	100
Mississippi	13	15	35	42	36	43	84	100
Missouri	7	21	18	55	8	24	33	100
Montana	5	10	29	58	16	32	50	100
Nebraska	3	6	38	70	13	24	54	100

(1)

SUMMARY OF STATES' ISSUES BY DIMENSION—Continued

States	Health		Economic		Social		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Nevada	2	5	32	78	7	17	41	100
New Hampshire	5	11	17	36	25	53	47	100
New Jersey	2	8	16	67	6	25	24	100
New Mexico	11	20	37	67	7	13	55	100
New York	2	2	61	65	31	33	94	100
North Carolina	33	18	62	33	90	49	185	100
North Dakota	16	17	46	48	34	35	96	100
Ohio	18	27	29	43	20	30	67	100
Oklahoma	19	18	57	54	29	28	105	100
Oregon	22	17	81	62	28	21	131	100
Pennsylvania	11	14	51	66	15	20	77	100
Rhode Island	5	9	24	43	27	48	56	100
South Carolina	14	16	44	50	30	34	88	100
South Dakota	4	14	17	59	8	27	29	100
Tennessee	3	15	15	75	2	10	20	100
Texas	5	10	23	44	24	46	52	100
Utah	16	19	31	36	38	45	85	100
Vermont	13	18	17	24	42	58	72	100
Virginia	25	42	24	41	10	17	59	100
Washington	12	16	31	40	34	44	77	100
West Virginia	6	7	53	59	30	34	89	100
Wisconsin	21	20	54	50	32	30	107	100
Wyoming	8	7	76	69	27	24	111	100
District of Columbia	10	12	45	44	45	44	103	100
Total	639		2,043		1,346		4,028	

When we collapse all three dimensions together (health, economic, and social), our analysis shows that in 57 percent of the recommendations, the Federal, state, and local governments are specifically mentioned as the source of improvements. The States' suggested non-governmental organizations as the recommended source for improvements in 28 percent of the recommendations, as shown in the following table.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations		
	Number	Percent	
Federal government	1,215	30	57
Federal and state government	666	16	
State and local government	439	11	
Non-government	1,108	28	
Combinations of the above	600	15	
Total	4,028	100	

We noted that 25 States and the District of Columbia emphasized the use of non-government sources for improving their situation; and, in fact, four of the States specified the use of non-governmental sources in over 50 percent of their recommendations. These States are Alabama, Florida, North Dakota, and Utah. We also noted that three of these four States as well as many other States that stressed the use of non-governmental sources of improvement,

emphasized social issues as their primary problems. While most States that stressed government sources, emphasized economic or health issues.

More money needed to improve conditions of the elderly

In over 35 percent of the recommendations for all three dimensions (health, economic and social) more expenditures are directly involved. Tennessee specified that 95 percent of its elderly issues could be addressed with more money. And, ten other States (Delaware, Georgia, California, Maine, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, South Dakota, and Texas), recommended additional funds to assist them in 50 percent or more of their elderly issues.

A majority of States (35) believed improvements in the condition (health, economic, and social dimensions) of the elderly in their States could be made through existing organizations. Only three States, Rhode Island, Tennessee. and Washington recommend that the majority of their elderly issues be addressed through legislation. Only one State, South Carolina, suggests that the elderly's concerns be resolved through research and development.

Economic condition improved through reduced service costs

Regarding how to improve the elderly's economic condition, 58 percent of those recommendations concerned reducing costs, 39 percent concerned increasing and/or maintaining income, and 3 percent combinations, as shown in the following table:

Method of improving economic dimension	Recommendations		
	Number	Percent	
Increase/maintain income:			
Employment	295	15	39
Nonemployment	492	24	
Reduce costs:			
Taxes	113	6	58
Reduce durable costs	209	10	
Reduce nondurable costs	106	5	
Reduce service costs	764	37	
Combinations of the above	64	3	
Total	2,043	100	

Looking at recommendations by State, 32 States and the District of Columbia, suggested reducing the cost of services as the best way to improve the economic dimension of the elderly. Many of these suggestions include recommendations concerning Medicare/Medicaid. For example, some States recommended:

Medicare include home care.
Medicare include diagnostic and preventative services.
Medicaid eligibility and benefits be reevaluated.

The States' recommendations emphasized that costs be reduced through affecting intermediaries so that they will reduce the costs of their services.

To the extent that State's recommendations concerned the maintenance of income, this income maintenance was to be assured by

affecting employers (both government and non-government) so that they will provide appropriate pensions.

Multiple roles enhance the social condition of the elderly

The States' recommendations perceive the elderly as performing multiple roles in improving their social condition. These roles include consumer, employee, a seeker of assistance, and as a resident. In 39 of the States and the District of Columbia a combination of these roles was the primary recommendation.

Of the remaining, 10 had specific recommendations stating they preferred social improvements to affect them where they live or in their role as a resident. These 10 States include Alaska, Connecticut, Hawaii, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Utah, and West Virginia.

A primary concern of the elderly in their role as a resident is the impact of housing on their social dimension. Some of the recommendations included:

Determine the feasibility of using zoning ordinances to encourage development of "shared housing".

Provide congregate housing for the elderly which shall include the services needed by the resident.

In addition to our analysis of the elderly in multiple roles, we looked at other factors impacting on the social dimension. Continuing education and education for learning how to thrive as well as cope in a changing world were important areas to the elderly. Recommendations included improving the image of the elderly portrayed in the media and the attitudes of others (through their education) regarding the elderly.

Improved health condition through research and development

Many States' recommendations concerning health matters focus on research and development. Sixteen of the 50 States and the District of Columbia identified research and development issues in their recommendations regarding health. These States California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Utah, Wisconsin, and Wyoming selected research and development as the primary help for addressing health concerns. These recommendations include:

Increase funding should be made available for research in geriatric medicine.

Continue studying organic brain syndrome.

Other recommendations addressed manpower needs, licensing, and in-home health care, such as:

Assessing future manpower needs in gerontology.

Establishing certification and licensing standards for gerontological health care personnel.

Providing more health care in the home.

METHODOLOGY FOR SUMMARIZING STATE'S RECOMMENDATIONS IN AGING FOR THE 1980'S

STATE CONFERENCES IDENTIFIED AGING ISSUES

State Conferences on Aging were held in each of the states and territories from September 1980 through June 1981. The state conferences allowed citizens, organizations, and government leaders to examine the quality of life for older Americans within each state and to analyze the capacity of existing programs and social institutions that serve the needs of this special population. Organized by the state coordinators, and in some cases by state steering committees, the state conferences were designed so that the views of the local and the state citizenry might be assimilated in order to prepare formal recommendations for the White House Conference on Aging. Those recommendations are the basis for this distillation of the major concerns of the elderly at the state and national levels.

A MODEL TO ANALYZE STATE ISSUES

We developed a model for examining the state recommendations. Essentially, the Model consists of three dimensions: (1) health, (2) economic, (3) social, and (4) six levels of information relevant to each dimension. The interior of the model accommodates information about the capabilities of the elderly; the second level concerns problems that account for a person's loss of capability; the third level accounts for helps given to overcome or reduce the effects of problems; the fourth level accounts for the providers of help; the fifth level accounts for the resources that establish the capability of the provider system; and the sixth level accounts for the persons who affect those resources (See page 8 for the Model).

Each recommendation was uniquely fashioned by the state without the aid of this Model. However, each recommendation was made relative to the context of (1) the extent that current needs of the elderly were being satisfied locally, and (2) local, state, and national statements regarding the health of the economy. This context provided sufficient commonality within recommendations to enable our coding them and statistically compiling results using the Model.

GUIDELINES FOR CODING MODEL

A. The first step is to identify the most appropriate dimension that a recommendation concerns. This identification is difficult because the subject is not sufficient. The same subject can be covered in each of the three dimensions; for example, the subject of long term care (LTC).

If LTC is in short supply and there are persons needing such care and there are not enough facilities or sufficiently trained

and available personnel to provide needed care, the recommendation probably concerns the provision of more LTC; that is, the health dimension.

If LTC were available but a person or family could not afford the LTC, the recommendation probably concerns some ways for making LTC more affordable; that is, the economic dimension.

If LTC were available but only provided survival and not thriving activities, the recommendation probably concerns the inclusion of thriving activities; that is, the social dimension.

Therefore, the subject and the purpose of the recommendation are both necessary and sufficient for identifying the appropriate dimension for a recommendation.

B. The next step is to identify the likely source of problem that the recommendation appears to be assuming. This source is associated with the appropriate dimension. The remainder of these guidelines is therefore by dimension.

C. *Health Dimension.*—In this dimension, the first major category of interest is the aspect of a person's health that the recommendation seems to be concerned about:

(1) General/Unspecified
(2) Physical
(3) Mental
(4) Physical and Mental

Given the concern, the next category concerns what kind of help is being recommended:

(1) More/Provide
(2) Better/Improve
(3) Process/Method
(4) Learning/R&D/Study
(5) Other Combinations

Given the kind of help recommended, the next category is the location that help is desired:

(1) Location Unspecified
(2) Rural areas
(3) Urban/Inner City
(4) Communities
(5) Home
(6) Institutions
(7) Urban/Rural
(8) Other Combinations

D. *Economic Dimension.*—In this dimension, the first category of interest is whether the recommendation concerns the following aspect:

(1) Increase Income
(2) Maintain Income
(3) Reduce Outgo/Costs

The next category concerns the way income and outgo is to be affected by the recommendation:

For increase/maintain income:

(1) Through employment and its benefits.
(2) Through non-employment programs, like increase in social security benefits.

For reducing outgo/costs:

(3) Through taxes.
(4) Cost of durables, like housing.
(5) Cost of non-durables, like energy.
(6) Cost of services, like transportation, repairs.
(7) Two or more.

The next category concerns how the recommendation would be implemented:

(1) Affecting the elderly like through training.
(2) Affecting employers/intermediaries—e.g. add more jobs, etc.
(3) Affecting a process/method—e.g. dental coverage included in insurance coverage.

E. *Social Dimension.*—In this dimension, the first category concerns the source of the apparent problem:

(1) Self.
(2) Others.
(3) Media.
(4) Two or more.

The next category concerns the role the elderly is in when the problem is encountered:

(1) As a resident; for example, housing safety.
(2) Consumer.
(3) Employee.
(4) Seeker of assistance.
(5) Two or more.

The next category in this dimension is how the recommended Help might affect the elderly:

(1) Opportunities/Alternatives, like more transportation.
(2) Activities/Capabilities.
(3) Feelings/Attitudes.
(4) Social Values.
(5) Two or more of the above.

F. Remaining Codes:

State codes.—Identify each state by using one of the following 2-digit codes:

No.	State	No.	State
01	Alabama	27	New Hampshire
02	Arizona	28	New Jersey
03	Arkansas	29	New Mexico
04	California	30	New York
05	Connecticut	31	North Carolina
06	Delaware	32	North Dakota
07	Florida	33	Ohio
08	Georgia	34	Oklahoma
09	Hawaii	35	Oregon
10	Idaho	36	Pennsylvania
11	Illinois	37	Rhode Island
12	Indiana	38	South Carolina
13	Iowa	39	South Dakota
14	Kansas	40	Tennessee
15	Kentucky	41	Texas
16	Louisiana	42	Utah
17	Maine	43	Vermont
18	Maryland	44	Virginia
19	Massachusetts	45	Washington
20	Michigan	46	Wisconsin
21	Minnesota	47	Wyoming
22	Mississippi	48	District of Columbia
23	Missouri	49	Alaska
24	Montana	50	Colorado
25	Nebraska	51	West Virginia
26	Nevada		

Help providers.—As a general rule, identify the provider that the recommendation mentions. When the recommendation mentions no provider, deduce the likely provider by what is identified; that is, if the recommendation pertains to a federal program like social security or federal taxes, then the federal government is the provider involved.

Help system capability resources.—These resources are processes, persons, money, and materials (including supplies and facilities). What is desired is what resources would likely be affected the most if the recommendation were implemented.

Change fashioners.—This identification is of the role of the persons who would likely be involved to implement the recommendation initially or else the recommendation would likely not be implemented; for example, a change in the tax law would likely involve legislators. Additional clarification of the role of the change fashioner follows:

Change fashioners and role

Legislators: Government, like new legislation needed.

Organizers: Government and non-government, like internal structural changes.

Budgeters: Law exists, like need more funds.

Monitors: Government, like review, study, or oversight.

Developers: Government or private sector, like R&D to change structure.

Regulators: Regulations, i.e., Medicare/Medicaid.

In summary, a full code for a recommendation in any dimension requires 13 coded items of information:

Two digits as a state code.

Two digits to identify the state recommendation number.

Two digits to identify the state sub-recommendation number.

One digit to indicate the dimension.

Three digits to identify the problems and helps within each dimension.

One digit to identify the help provider; that is, federal, state and local government, federal and state government, non-government (or industry), or family-friend.

One digit to identify the resources essential to implement the recommendation; that is, processes, persons, money, materials, or combinations of them.

One digit to identify the category of persons who must act on the recommendation initially, that is, legislators, organizers, budgeters, monitors, developers, or regulators.

G. *Coding Examples:* A fully coded recommendation would consist of 13 digits as follows:

Health Dimension Recommendations.—Recommendation suggests funding of the Mental Health Assistance Act.

01—Alabama
01—Recommendation Number
01—Sub-recommendation Number
1—Health Dimension
3—Mental Aspect
1—More/Provide
1—Location Unspecified
1—Federal (help provider)
3—Money (Capability resource involved)
1—Legislators (fashion appropriation)

0101011311131—Full code is 13 digits.

Economic Dimension Recommendations.—Recommendation suggests allowing elderly interest and dividend tax deductions.

02—Alaska
01—Recommendation Number
01—Sub-recommendation Number
2—Economic Dimension
3—Reduce Outgo
1—Thru Taxes
3—Affecting a Process
1—Federal
1—Process
1—Legislators

0201012313111—Full code is 13 digits.

Social Dimension Recommendation.—Recommendation involves providing protective services for the elderly.

03—Arizona
01—Recommendation Number
01—Sub-recommendation Number
3—Social Dimension
2—Others are the problem
1—As a resident

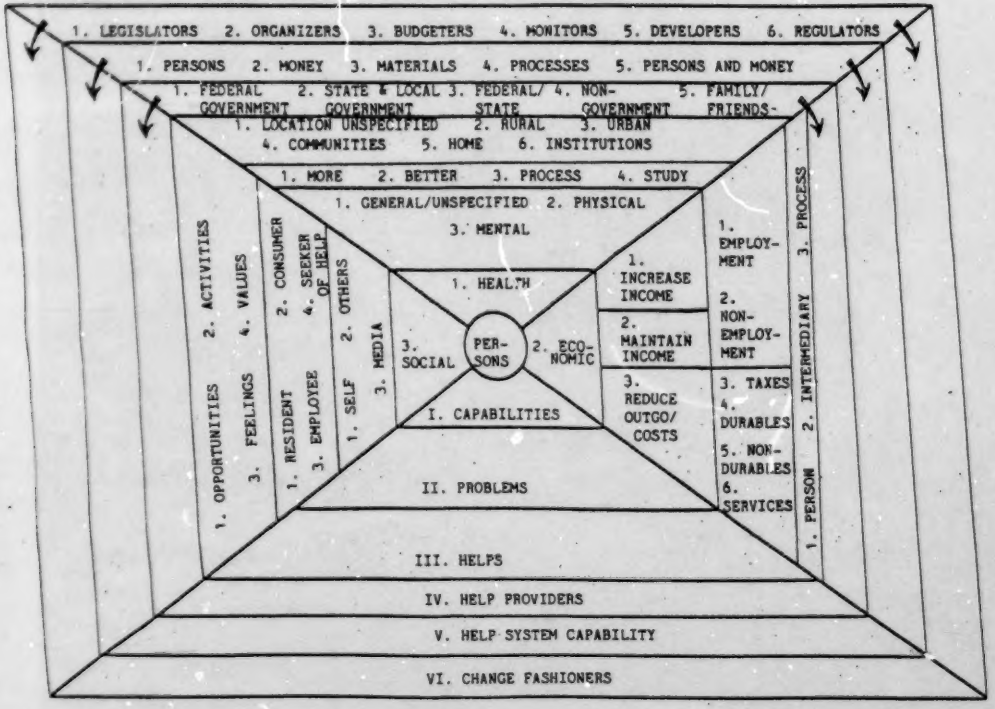
4—Social Values (overall-well-being)
2—State and Local Government
5—Two or more resources
1—Legislators set policy/program in motion.
0301013214251—Full 13-digit code.

In this example, the elderly needs protection from others in the community where the person resides, and although this may be a local matter, it may need some impetus from the state or local legislators. Under government leadership, the assistance might involve the use of police officers to establish and train community watchers and life-lines for elderly in their home and on the streets.

H. *Special Note:* Although our informal test indicates that most recommendations can be categorized using the model, some recommendations may not lend themselves towards this categorization. For any recommendation or portion of a recommendation that is undeterminable, use "9". However, there are two exceptions: the state code and the specific recommendation itself. For example, if everything but the two indicated items were unknown, the code for an Alabama recommendation would be:

0101019999999—Assuming this were the first recommendation and sub-recommendation for Alabama.

Model for Analyzing States' Recommendations


1. LEGISLATORS 2. ORGANIZERS 3. BUDGETERS 4. MONITORS 5. DEVELOPERS 6. REGULATORS
1. PERSONS 2. MONEY 3. MATERIALS 4. PROCESSES 5. PERSONS AND MONEY
1. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT 2. STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT 3. FEDERAL/STATE 4. NON-GOVERNMENT 5. FAMILY/FRIENDS
1. LOCATION UNSPECIFIED 2. RURAL 3. URBAN
4. COMMUNITIES 5. HOME 6. INSTITUTIONS
1. MORE 2. BETTER 3. PROCESS 4. STUDY
1. GENERAL/UNSPECIFIED 2. PHYSICAL
3. MENTAL
1. OPPORTUNITIES 2. ACTIVITIES 3. FEELINGS 4. VALUES
1. RESIDENT 2. CONSUMER 3. EMPLOYEE 4. SEEKER OF HELP
1. SELF 2. OTHERS 3. MEDIA
1. HEALTH
3. SOCIAL
PER-SONS
2. ECO-NOMIC
I. CAPABILITIES
1. INCREASE INCOME
2. MAINTAIN INCOME
3. REDUCE OUTGO/COSTS
1. EMPLOY-MENT
2. NON-EMPLOY-MENT
3. TAXES
4. DURABLES
5. NON-DURABLES
6. SERVICES
II. PROBLEMS
1. PERSON 2. INTERMEDIARY 3. PROCESS
III. HELPS
IV. HELP PROVIDERS
V. HELP SYSTEM CAPABILITY
VI. CHANGE FASHIONERS

COMPARISON OF ALABAMA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THOSE NATIONWIDE

Contrary to the views nationwide, Alabama's recommendations suggest social issues to be the primary concern of their elderly with economic issues next in importance. Over 50 percent of their recommendations focus on the social dimension.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimensions	Alabama		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	12	15	639	16
Economic	25	31	2,043	51
Social	44	54	1,346	33
Total	81	100	4,028	100

Reducing costs can improve the economic condition of the elderly

Alabama believes the economic condition of the elderly can be improved by reducing costs, a belief shared nationwide, as shown in the following table. Forty percent of Alabama's recommendations in the economic dimension propose reducing service costs to relieve the financial burden on the elderly. This was also the leading recommendation made nationwide.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON ALABAMA'S ELDERLY

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Alabama		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	10	40	764	37
Taxes	2	8	113	6
Reduce durable costs	6	24	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	3	12	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	1	4	295	15
Nonemployment	3	12	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	25	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

Seek policy changes in the Medicaid program which would include payment for services to older people in their own homes.

Provide uniform discounts for elderly by providers of public transportation during non-peak hours.

Have more available funds allocated to home health services which enable elderly to remain independent.

Explore extensions of meals on wheels program through churches/synagogues, provide meals 7 days instead of 5 days where needed, and use of church kitchens to prepare meals for home delivery.

Improved social concerns through combining programs

Alabama believes the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs, as shown in the following recommendations.

Urge the Farmers Home Administration to make greater outreach efforts to educate the rural elderly about opportunities currently available to them.

Have old school and military buses refurbished and equipped with lifts for elderly handicapped persons and furnish them to service providers to transport the elderly.

Involve elderly in planning and carrying out plans related to their activities providing opportunities for self expression and continued growth.

Develop local interfaith committees to set policy for addressing the needs of the elderly and to identify older persons to be trained as leaders to provide assistance.

Improve health concerns by providing more help and education

Alabama recommends providing more and better services to improve the health problems of the elderly along with education programs. Specific recommendations include:

Teach elderly the important relationship between nutrition, recreation and good health; provide continuing nutrition education to all groups of seniors as a deterrent to health problems.

Encourage volunteer groups to supplement services where needed, improve the delivery system to include home care for the needy rural elderly, and use pharmacists to help educate the elderly in the proper use of medication.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED BY NON-GOVERNMENT SOURCES

Sixty-two percent of Alabama's recommendations suggest improving issues impacting on older people through non-government sources, as opposed to 28 percent nationwide.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Alabama		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal government	8	10	1,215	30
Nongovernment	50	62	1,108	28
Federal and State government	12	15	666	16
State and local government	4	5	439	11
Combinations of the above	7	8	600	15
Total	81	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Alabama's recommendations suggest that existing organizations can provide the assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems (70 percent of their recommendations). This belief is shared nationwide, (41 percent) as shown in the following table.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Alabama		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	7	9	577	14
Organizations	57	70	1,651	41
Budget	4	5	767	19
Monitor	3	4	218	5
Research and development	4	5	297	8
Regulator	4	5	213	5
Combinations of the above	2	2	305	8
Total	81	100	4,028	100

COMPARISON OF ALASKA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THOSE NATIONWIDE

We found Alaska's issues regarding the elderly similar to those of the Nation. The following table shows economic issues as the primary concern of the elderly in Alaska (57 percent) and the Nation (51 percent) followed by social issues (31 percent for Alaska) and (33 percent nationally).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Alaska		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	5	12	639	16
Economic	24	57	2,043	51
Social	13	31	1,346	33
Total	42	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by increasing and/or maintaining income

The Nation recommends that the elderly's economic condition can be improved by reducing costs. However, Alaska believes their elderly's economic problems can best be resolved by increasing and/or maintaining income through employment and non-employment programs (54 percent of their economic recommendations).

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN ALASKA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations				
	Alaska			Nation	
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent
Increase/Maintain Income:					
Employment	6	25	54	295	15
Nonemployment	7	29		492	24
Costs:					
Taxes	2	8		113	6
Reduce durable costs	3	13		209	10
Reduce non-durable costs	0	0		106	5
Reduce service costs	6	25		764	37
Combinations of the above	0	0		64	3
Total	24	100		2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how the elderly's financial burden could be relieved through employment and non-employment program include:

The Social Security law should be amended to eliminate the earnings test so the elderly may supplement their fixed incomes and be allowed to earn unlimited additional benefits.

Mandatory retirement based on age should be abolished in all sectors of employment and employers should be encouraged to hire older people full-time, part-time, or flex-time.

The Alaska State legislature should appropriate one million dollars for employment and training of Alaska senior citizens 55 years of age on low or moderate incomes.

Senior citizens, themselves, should be employed in positions at the local, state, and Federal levels which serve elderly citizens.

Social concerns can be improved through a combination of programs

Alaska believes the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs (69 percent of their recommendations). specific recommendations include:

Alaska supports the concept of Senior Adult Day Care and advocates increasing funds and resources to increase the number of centers available in urban, rural, and bush communities.

Research of the impact on older Alaskans of anticipated rapid development change both in rural and urban Alaska should be designed to minimize the impact.

Talent banks of seniors should be established in communities, and specifically within school districts, to be used in sharing their skills, talents, and abilities with the students and members of the community at large.

A procedure should be developed by the University of Alaska to provide academic credit to those senior citizens who provide training for secondary and postsecondary students.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Alaska, like the Nation, believes the source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the the elderly is the Federal government. Forty-one percent of Alaska's recommendations and 30 percent of the Nation's recommendations show the Federal government as the primary source for improvement. As a secondary source of improvement, Alaska recommends a combination of state and local governments and non-government sources.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Alaska		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	17	41	1,215	30
State and local government	9	21	439	11
Federal and state government	6	14	666	16
Nongovernment	9	21	1,108	28

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS—Continued

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Alaska		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Other combinations	1	3	600	15
Total	42	100	4,028	100

A further analysis of each dimension shows Alaska believes: nongovernment sources together with Federal and state governments should help the elderly resolve their health problems (40 percent); the Federal government should be the primary source for improving the elderly's economic plight (67 percent); and while non-government sources should be responsible for solving social problems (53 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	0	0	16	67	1	8
State and local government	1	20	5	21	3	23
Federal and state government	2	40	3	12	1	8
Nongovernment	2	40	0	0	7	53
Other	0	0	0	0	1	8
Total	5	100	24	100	13	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Alaska's recommendations suggest that existing organizations can provide the assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems (55 percent of their recommendations). This belief is shared nationwide (41 percent) as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Provider	Alaska		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	10	24	577	14
Organizations	23	55	1,651	41
Budget	9	21	767	19
Monitor	0	0	218	5
Research and development	0	0	297	8
Regulator	0	0	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	42	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Forty-five percent of Alaska's recommendations suggest process changes as the primary resource necessary for providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly unlike the Nation which specifies increased funding (money) as the primary resource.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Alaska		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	1	2	313	8
Money	14	34	1,449	36
Material	1	2	120	3
Process	19	45	1,188	29
People and money	6	15	69[illegible]	17
Combinations of the above	1	2	268	7
Total	42	100	4,028	100

ARIZONA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION'S CONCERNS

By comparing the elderly recommendations made by Arizona with those of the Nation, we found that Arizona's issues regarding the elderly were similar to those of the Nation as a whole.

The following table shows that both Arizona and the Nation believe the primary concerns of the elderly are economic issues. Forty-two percent of Arizona's recommendations and 51 percent of the Nation's recommendations are economic. The second concern of the elderly in Arizona, as well as nationally, deals with social issues, followed by concerns regarding health issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Arizona		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	16	18	639	16
Economic	39	42	2,043	51
Social	37	40	1,346	33
Total	92	100	4,028	100

Economic condition can be improved through reduced service costs

Arizona, like the Nation, believes the economic condition of the elderly could be improved through reduced service costs. Recommendations to reduce service costs totaled over 33 percent for both Arizona and the Nation, as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON ARIZONA'S ELDERLY

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Arizona		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	13	33	764	37
Taxes	4	10	113	6
Reduce durable costs	2	5	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	3	8	106	5
Increase/Maintain Income:				
Employment	10	26	295	15
Nonemployment	7	18	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	39	100	2,043	100

Most of Arizona's recommendations for improving the economic condition of the elderly through reduced service costs are concerned with the adequacy of Medicare. For example:

Gaps in Medicare coverage should be eliminated, and coverage should be expanded to pay for preventive health care, drugs, prosthetic appliances, eye glasses, wheelchairs, all necessary and prescribed appliances and aids, routine dental care, mental health services, skilled and unskilled in-home health care, health assessment services and custodial care.

Medicare reimbursement regulations should require that the provider be the party applying for reimbursement, rather than the recipient.

The deductible in Medicare should be reduced.

Health concerns stress quality care and quality of life

The Nation's recommendations concerning how to resolve the health problems of the elderly focus on having professionals learn more about aging and how to prevent disabling illnesses. Arizona also expresses many of these same concerns but most of Arizona's concerns are broad and relate to quality care and improving the elderly's quality of life. For example:

The state and private sector should develop an expanded range of services for those who reside in long-term care facilities and work on options to the traditional long-term care facility residence.

Long-term care facilities should be carefully monitored by the state to assure that the elderly resident's quality of life is preserved.

Federal and state regulations governing facilities for health care of the aged should emphasize and promote the development of quality care.

Social recommendations emphasize keeping the elderly independent

The Nation's social recommendations are concerned with improving services through better program coordination. Although some of Arizona's social recommendations were also concerned with improving services through better coordination, most of Arizona's social recommendations emphasize keeping the elderly independent and helping the elderly cope with personal problems. For example:

Provide social services in low-income projects which prevent institutionalization, and maintain the elderly in their own homes.

Provide programs to assist the elderly in coping with personal, social, psychological, health, and financial problems.

Remove physical barriers on all campuses to the elderly and handicapped.

Fund through the private sector and government the development of cultural opportunities for the elderly that encourage self-expression and self-fulfillment.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED BY NONGOVERNMENT AS WELL AS GOVERNMENT SOURCES

Twenty-nine percent of Arizona's recommendations suggest improving issues impacting on the elderly through a combination of government and nongovernment sources.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, OR SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Arizona		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	19	21	1,215	30
Nongovernment	18	19	1,108	28
Federal and State government	19	21	666	16
State and local government	9	10	439	11
Combinations of the above	27	29	600	15
Total	92	100	4,028	100

A further breakout of each dimension in the following table shows that Arizona believes the Federal government should be the primary source for improving the economic plight of the elderly (36 percent), while a combination of government and non-government sources should help the elderly resolve their health and social problems (37 and 35 percent, respectively).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S CONDITIONS BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	1	6	14	36	4	11
State and local government	2	13	5	13	2	5
Federal and State government	5	31	9	23	5	14
Nongovernment	2	13	3	8	13	35
Combinations of the above	6	37	8	20	13	35
Total	16	100	39	100	37	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY PROVIDED THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Arizona believes most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly can be resolved through existing organizations; a belief held by the Nation. As shown in the following table Arizona suggests that 55 percent of its recommendations can be carried out through existing organizations, compared to 41 percent for the Nation.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Arizona		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	24	26	577	14
Organizations	50	55	1,651	41
Budget	7	8	767	19
Monitor	1	1	218	5
Research and development	4	4	297	8
Regulator	4	4	213	5
Combinations of the above	2	2	305	8
Total	92	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Forty-one percent of Arizona's recommendations suggest increased funding (money) and additional people as the primary resource necessary for providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Arizona		National	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	31	34	313	8
Money	12	13	1,449	36
Process	3	3	1,188	29
Material	3	3	120	3
People and money	38	41	690	17
Combinations of the above	5	6	268	7
Total	92	100	4,028	100

COMPARISON OF ARKANSAS' ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THOSE NATIONWIDE

Contrary to the views nationwide, Arkansas' recommendations suggest social issues to be the primary concern of their elderly with economic issues second. Thirty-eight percent of Arkansas' recommendations focus on the social dimension.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Arkansas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	18	29	639	16
Economic	20	33	2,043	51
Social	23	38	1,346	33
Total	61	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

Arkansas, along with the Nation, suggests reducing costs as the principal method of improving the economic condition of the elderly. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 60 percent of Arkansas' recommendations proposed reducing service costs to relieve the financial burden on the elderly, a proposal also made nationwide.

METHOD OF RELIEVING THE FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN ARKANSAS

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Arkansas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	12	60	764	37
Taxes	1	5	113	6
Reduce durable costs	2	10	209	10
Reduce non-durable costs	2	10	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	2	10	295	15
Nonemployment	0	0	492	24
Combinations of the above	1	5	64	3
Total	20	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced included:

Older American Act programs under Title III B and C should be expanded providing more transportation, home delivered meals, and congregate meals in multipurpose senior centers, giving the elderly a chance to stay active.

A complete array of services should be made available in the home ranging from chore services to skilled nursing and therapy, meeting both physical and emotional needs.

Medicaid arrangements for the payment of medical transportation should provide payment with less red tape.

Rehabilitative services should be available to the visually and hearing impaired to enable individuals to continue to live independently as long as possible, regardless of their vocational potential.

Social concerns can be improved through a combination of programs

Arkansas believes by focusing on a combination of programs the social concerns of the elderly can be improved as indicated by the following recommendations:

Discrimination against older workers should be monitored and enforcement of current anti-discrimination regulations should be increased.

Voluntary organizations, such as historical societies, can make more use of the elderly in oral history projects and in preserving skills in crafts which may become obsolete.

The aging network can assist the elderly to be advocates on their own behalf through training and leadership seminars, and mock legislative sessions which provide an opportunity to understand the legislative process.

Improve health concerns through research and more help

Arkansas believes health concerns of the elderly can be improved through research and by providing more help. Specific recommendations include:

Federal funds should be continued and increased if possible to finance medical research into the physical and psychological aspects of the aging process.

A portion of funding for aging programs under the Older Americans Act should be maintained to fund practical research into the most accurate methods of assessing the needs of the elderly and in developing service to meet those needs in the most efficient and cost effective way.

Public health agencies should be funded to establish "well elderly" clinics to perform screening and provide physical checkups.

The Health Care Financing Administration should study prescription drug purchasing assistance through Medicaid to determine if funds exist to expand the coverage offered by this program.

Plans of care for patients in nursing homes should contain restorative treatments such as physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, and counseling, with a mechanism for Medicaid or Title XX reimbursement.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Thirty-nine percent of Arkansas' recommendations suggest improving the health, economic, and social issues impacting on the elderly primarily through the Federal government, a recommendation also made nationally (30 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Arkansas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	24	39	1,215	30
State and local government	6	10	439	11
Federal and State government	11	18	666	16
Nongovernment	4	7	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	16	26	600	15
Total	61	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS AND A COMBINATION OF PROVIDERS

Arkansas recommends that existing organizations and a combination of providers assist the elderly in resolving their health, economic, and social problems as shown in the following table (30 and 31 percent, respectively).

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Arkansas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	5	8	577	14
Organizations	18	30	1,651	41
Budget	5	8	767	19
Monitor	7	12	218	5
Research and development	0	0	297	8
Regulators	7	11	213	5
Combinations of the above	19	31	305	8
Total	61	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Thirty-nine percent of Arkansas' recommendations suggest increased funding (money) as the primary resource needed for providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, a view shared by the Nation (36 percent), as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Arkansas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	5	8	313	8
Money	24	39	1,449	36
Process	1	2	1,188	29
Material	1	2	120	3
People and money	21	34	690	17
Combinations of the above	9	15	268	7
Total	61	100	4,028	100

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CALIFORNIA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION'S CONCERNS

We compared California's recommendations with those of the Nation and found California's issues regarding the elderly similar to those nationwide. The following table shows economic issues (71 and 51 percent, respectively) to be the largest concern of the elderly in California and throughout the Nation with social issues being second (19 and 33 percent, respectively).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	California		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	7	10	639	16
Economic	49	71	2,043	51
Social	13	19	1,346	33
Total	69	100	4,028	100

Economic condition improved by reducing costs

California along with the Nation recommends that the elderly's economic condition can best be improved by reducing costs. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 53 percent of California's recommendations suggest reducing service costs as a method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly; a recommendation also made nationwide (37 percent), as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN CALIFORNIA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	California		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	26	53	764	37
Taxes	1	2	113	6
Reduce durable costs	3	6	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	0	0	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	6	12	295	15
Nonemployment	13	27	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	49	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how the elderly's economic condition can be improved by reducing service costs include:

Funds be authorized and appropriated under the Older Americans Act designated to provide, strengthen, and increase nutrition delivery services for the elderly.

Require the funding, coordination, and delivery of health and social services.

Provide legal services that are essential to secure the rights of all the elderly in such areas as economic, health, housing, and long term care.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

California, like the Nation, believes the source of improvement for issues impacting on the older person is the Federal government. Forty-nine percent of California's recommendations and 30 percent of the Nation's show the Federal government as the source for improvement.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	California		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	34	49	1,215	30
Federal and State governments	13	19	666	16
Nongovernment	13	19	1,108	28
State and local governments	1	1	439	11
Combinations of the above	8	12	600	15
Total	69	100	4,028	100

An interesting point to note as shown in the following table is that California specifies that improvements relating to social aspects should be the responsibility of nongovernment sources (54 percent) while health and economic improvements for the elderly should be the Federal government's responsibility (57 percent).

SUGGESTED SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S CONDITION BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	4	57	28	57	2	15
State and local government	0	0	1	2	0	0
Federal and State government	2	29	8	16	3	23
Nongovernment	1	14	5	10	7	54
Other	0	0	7	15	1	8
Total	7	100	49	100	13	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

California believes existing organizations can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (42 percent of their recommendations). This belief is shared by the Nation (41 percent), as shown in the following table.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	California		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	9	13	577	14
Organizations	29	42	1,651	41
Budget	25	36	767	19
Monitor	2	3	218	5
Research and development	3	4	297	8
Regulator	1	2	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	69	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

California believes with more money (55 percent) the health, economic, and social conditions can be improved by existing organizations, a view shared by the nation (36 percent), as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	California		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	2	3	313	8
Money	38	55	1,449	36
Material	0	0	120	3
Process	18	26	1,188	29
People and money	11	16	690	17
Combinations of the above	0	0	268	7
Total	69	100	4,028	100

COMPARISON OF COLORADO'S ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THOSE NATIONWIDE

Our comparison of Colorado's elderly concerns with those nationwide showed economic issues to be the primary concern of the elderly (51 percent of their recommendations). Health issues are second in Colorado (26 percent).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Colorado		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	43	26	639	16
Economic	85	51	2,043	51
Social	38	23	1,346	33
Total	166	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

Colorado, like the Nation, believes the economic condition of the elderly could be improved by reducing service costs. Fifty-one percent of Colorado's recommendations and 37 percent of the Nation's propose reducing service costs to relieve the financial burden on the elderly, as the following table shows.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN COLORADO

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Colorado		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	43	51	764	37
Taxes	5	6	113	6
Reduce durable costs	7	8	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	0	0	106	5
Increase/Maintain Income:				
Employment	5	6	295	15
Nonemployment	25	29	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	85	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

The Congress and state legislatures should initiate cost containment measures for medical services.

The Congress and state legislatures should provide funds for the expansion of community support services—home maintenance, health, social and transportation services which enable the elderly to live in their own community.

The Congress and the states should enact legislation to establish energy rate structures which reduce costs to residential consumers.

Legal services, at least legal advice, should be accessible to all older Americans and legal programs should be expanded.

Reduce health concerns through training, education, and a combination of programs

Colorado's recommendations suggest reducing the health problems of their elderly through training, education, and a combination of programs. For example, Colorado recommends:

Federal, state, and local funds should support training programs for professionals and paraprofessionals to enable them to deal effectively with elders of diverse backgrounds in the planning and delivery of home health and support services.

Preventive health education should be provided for all practitioners in health-related fields and for older adults themselves.

Geriatric nutrition, taught by qualified instructors, should be included in the curricula of all medical and nursing schools.

A full range of home health and in-home services should be developed and accessible to rural and urban elders in every community.

State offices on aging and area agencies on aging should assure coordination of community-based long-term care services and should disseminate information about such services to older persons, health care and social service professionals, and the general public.

Improve social concerns through a combination of programs

Colorado believes the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs. Specific recommendations include:

The area agencies on aging should organize, fund, and publicize advocacy groups of clients and consumers to provide a mechanism for dealing with problems and complaints against agencies and programs serving elders.

National television, radio stations, and local stations should be encouraged to eliminate programs and advertisements which perpetrate negative stereotypes of aging and older people.

Apply economic pressure to alert the private sector to older consumer's power in the market place and their increasing economic power in an aging society.

Intergenerational contacts should be promoted through service clubs, community groups, and extended families.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

Forty-one percent of Colorado's recommendations suggest nongovernment as the primary source for improvement on all dimensions for issues affecting the elderly. However, the Nation believes the Federal government is the primary source of improvement.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Colorado		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	40	24	1,215	30
State and local government	7	4	439	11
Federal and State government	34	21	666	16
Nongovernment	68	41	1,108	28
Other combinations	17	10	600	15
Total	166	100	4,028	100

A further analysis of each dimension shows Colorado specifies that nongovernment sources should help the elderly resolve their health and social problems (65 and 61 percent, respectively) while the Federal government should be the primary source for improving the elderly's economic plight (39 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	4	9	33	39	3	8
State and local government	3	7	1	1	3	8
Federal and State government	7	16	21	25	6	15
Nongovernment	28	65	17	20	23	61
Other combinations	1	3	13	15	3	8
Total	43	100	85	100	38	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Colorado and the Nation believe that existing organizations can provide the help needed to resolve most health, economic, and social issues impacting on the elderly (55 and 41 percent, respectively) as shown in the following table.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Colorado		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	5	3	577	14
Organizations	92	55	1,651	41

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY—Continued

Provider	Recommendations			
	Colorado		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Budget	27	16	767	19
Monitor	16	10	218	5
Research and development	5	3	297	8
Regulator	20	12	213	5
Combinations of the above	1	1	305	8
Total	166	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Forty-eight percent of Colorado's recommendations suggest increased funding (money) as the resource needed for providers to improve the health, economic, and social condition of the elderly, a view shared by the Nation (36 percent).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Colorado		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	7	4	313	8
Money	79	48	1,449	36
Material	4	2	120	3
Process	48	29	1,188	29
People and money	27	16	690	17
Combinations of the above	1	1	268	7
Total	166	100	4,028	100

CONNECTICUT'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION

We compared Connecticut's recommendations with those of the Nation and found Connecticut's issues regarding the elderly similar to those of the Nation. The following table shows economic issues to be the primary concern of the elderly in Connecticut (64 percent) and throughout the Nation (51 percent) with social issues being second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimensions	Connecticut		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	9	12	539	16
Economic	50	64	2,043	51
Social	19	24	1,346	33
Total	78	100	4,028	100

Economic issues can be improved by reducing costs

Connecticut, along with the Nation, recommends reducing costs as the best way to improve the older persons' economic condition. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 56 percent of Connecticut's recommendations suggest reducing service costs as the primary method of relieving the financial burden on older people. This suggestion was also made by the Nation (37 percent), as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN CONNECTICUT

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Connecticut		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	28	56	764	37
Taxes	2	4	113	6
Reduce durable costs	3	6	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	3	6	106	5
Increase/Maintain Income:				
Employment	5	10	295	15
Nonemployment	7	14	492	24
Combinations of the above	2	4	64	3
Total	50	100	2,043	100

Training of professional and para-professional health care personnel include gerontology and mental health as part of the curriculum.

Education and training in gerontology be mandated for all health care personnel, including physicians involved in long-term care.

Priority be given to public and private funding of research and training to basic psychological and physiological research, geriatric medical and mental practices, long-term care and informal support systems.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Connecticut, like the Nation, believes the source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly is the Federal government. Forty-eight percent of Connecticut's recommendations and 30 percent of the Nation's recommendations show the Federal government as the primary source for improvement. As a secondary source of improvement, Connecticut recommends Federal and state governments.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Connecticut		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	37	48	1,215	30
Federal and State governments	18	23	666	16
Nongovernment	12	15	1,108	28
State and local governments	3	4	43[illegible]	11
Other	8	10	60[illegible]	15
Total	78	100	4,02[illegible]	100

An interesting point to note, as shown in the following table, is that Connecticut specifies that improvements relating to social aspects should be the responsibility of Federal and state governments (37 percent) while health and economic improvements for the elderly should be the Federal government's responsibility, 45 and 62 percent, respectively.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	4	45	31	62	2	10
State and local government	1	11	1	2	1	5
Federal and State government	2	22	9	18	7	37
Nongovernment	1	11	5	10	6	32
Other	1	11	4	8	3	16
Total	9	100	50	100	19	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Connecticut believes existing organizations and more funds can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (65 percent of their recommendations). This belief is shared by the Nation as the following table shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Connecticut		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	14	18	577	14
Organizations	26	33	1,651	41
Budget	25	32	767	19
Monitor	3	4	218	5
Research and development	1	1	297	8
Regulator	7	9	213	5
Combinations of the above	2	3	305	8
Total	78	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Connecticut believes through increased funding (money) the health, economic, and social conditions can be improved by existing organizations, a view shared by the Nation, 40 and 36 percent respectively, as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Connecticut		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	2	3	313	8
Money	31	40	1,449	36
Material	1	1	120	3
Process	9	11	1,188	29
People and money	28	36	690	17
Combinations of the above	7	9	268	7
Total	78	100	4,028	100

Delaware State Issues on Aging for the 1980's

DELAWARE'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION

A comparison of Delaware's issues regarding the elderly with those of the Nation disclosed them to be similar. For example, the elderly in Delaware and the Nation are primarily concerned with economic issues (57 and 51 percent, respectively) with social issues second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimensions	Delaware		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	8	18	639	16
Economic	25	57	2,043	51
Social	11	25	1,346	33
Total	44	100	4,028	100

Improve economic conditions by reducing costs

Delaware agrees with the Nation's recommendations that the economic condition of the elderly could be improved by reducing costs. To relieve the financial burden on the elderly, 40 percent of Delaware's economic recommendations suggest reducing service costs, a recommendation also made nationwide (37 percent).

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN DELAWARE

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Delaware		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	10	40	764	37
Taxes	0	0	113	6
Reduce durable costs	2	8	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	8	32	106	5
Increase/Maintain Income:				
Employment	2	8	295	15
Nonemployment	3	12	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	25	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how the economic condition can be improved by reducing service costs include:

Medicare should include coverage for home care, diagnostic and preventive services.

Medicare coverage should include services provided by nurse practitioners, physician's assistants, and trained paraprofessionals.

Federal emphasis should be placed upon congregate housing facilities to develop and provide supportive services.

To promote maximum independence and quality of life, increased funding and attention should be accorded comprehensive in-home services.

Improve social concerns through a combination of programs

Delaware believes the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs (55 percent of their recommendations). Specific recommendations include:

The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 should be vigorously enforced.

Funds should be provided to develop and ensure monitoring and enforcement of national standards for quality services.

Federal and state legislative measures and initiatives to assist crime victims should recognize the special needs of the elderly victim (i.e., special physical, social, and economic needs.).

Improve health concerns through research, education, and by providing more services

Delaware believes health problems of the elderly can be improved through training, research and by providing more services. Delaware recommends for example:

The Medicare program be evolved into a national health care plan for all ages with special emphasis on the needs of the elderly.

A national research initiative on Alzheimer's disease be undertaken with funding equivalent to that for cancer or heart disease research.

New or reallocated funds be used to support medical education and the training of health care professionals in geriatric and gerontological specialties.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Delaware, like the Nation, believes the source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly is the Federal government. Fifty-two percent of Delaware's recommendations and 30 percent of the Nation's show the Federal government as the primary source for improvement. As a secondary source of improvement, Delaware recommends Federal and state governments.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Delaware		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	23	52	1,215	30
Federal and State government	10	23	666	16
Nongovernment	9	20	1,108	28

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS—Continued

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Delaware		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
State and local government	2	5	439	11
Other combinations	0	0	600	15
Total	44	100	4,028	100

An interesting point to note, as shown in the following table, is that Delaware specifies that improvements relating to health issues should be the responsibility of non-government sources (63 percent), social issues the responsibility of Federal and state governments (46 percent) while economic issues are the responsibility of the Federal government (72 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY IN DELAWARE

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	2	25	18	72	3	27
State and local government	1	12	0	0	1	9
Federal and State government	0	0	5	20	5	46
Nongovernment	5	63	2	8	2	18
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	8	100	25	100	11	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS AND MORE FUNDS

Delaware believes more funds and existing organizations can resolve most health, ecomomic, and social issues affecting the elderly (32 and 30 percent, respectively). This belief is shared by the Nation as the following table shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Delaware		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	8	18	577	14
Organizations	13	30	1,651	41
Budget	14	32	767	19
Monitor	2	4	218	5
Research and development	0	0	297	8
Regulator	7	16	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	44	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Delaware and the Nation increased funding (money) to be the resource most likely to be affected in improving the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly (59 and 36 percent, respectively) as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Delaware		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	1	2	313	8
Money	26	59	1,449	36
Process	14	32	1,188	29
Material	0	0	120	3
People and money	1	2	690	17
Combinations of the above	2	5	268	7
Total	44	100	4,028	100

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS STRESS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES

To determine what the profile of an individual State might be, we compared the District of Columbia's recommendations with those of the Nation. We found that the District of Columbia issues regarding the elderly were similar to those of the Nation. The following table shows that the District of Columbia believes economic and social issues are primary concerns of the elderly (44 percent of the recommendations). However, nationwide, economic issues are the primary concern (51 percent) with social issues being second (33 percent).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimensions	District of Columbia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	13	12	639	16
Economic	45	44	2,043	51
Social	45	44	1,346	33
Total	103	100	4,028	100

Economic issues can be improved by reducing costs

An analysis of the economic dimension shows that 58 percent of the District of Columbia's recommendations suggest reducing costs as the primary method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly. This suggestion was also made by the Nation (58 percent), as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations					
	District of Columbia			Nation		
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
Costs:						
Reduce service costs	17	38	58	764	37	58
Taxes	0	0		113	6	
Reduce durable costs	8	18		209	10	
Reduce nondurable costs	1	2		106	5	
Increase/Maintain Income:						
Employment	1	2	42	295	15	42
Nonemployment	17	38		492	24	
Combinations of the above	1	2		64	3	
Total	45	100		2,043	100	

Specific recommendations on how costs can be reduced include:

Community-based programs receive greater financial support, including direct financial support for families maintaining older persons in the home.

Increase the number of subsidized housing units.

Provide the elderly with financial assistance for home repairs.

Increase neighborhood and local transportation services not now being met by the transit system.

Improve social concerns by providing information on transportation and housing

Most of the District of Columbia's issues regarding the social well-being of the elderly are concerned with a lack of adequate housing and housing information and poor transportation services for the elderly. Examples of some of the social issues the District of Columbia is concerned about include:

Require HUD to develop housing design, management, and certification standards for housing for the elderly.

Educate the elderly in the processes of government regarding housing legislation, regulations, and programs.

Establish a policy requiring transportation service coordination among all agencies and groups providing transportation in order to assure the most effective use of resources.

The public transit system provide greater protection on vehicles, at stations and bus stops, especially in high crime areas.

Improve health concerns by providing more chronic and preventive care services

The District of Columbia believes the existing health care delivery system focuses on acute care needs, while aging persons have a major need for chronic and preventive care services. Examples of some of the District of Columbia's recommendations concerning health care follow:

Establish health care as a right rather than a service available on the basis of ability to pay.

Require health care continuing education for professionals, paraprofessionals and volunteers.

Provide aging persons and their families with knowledge of nutrition.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Thirty-two percent of the District of Columbia's recommendations suggest the primary source of improvement on all dimensions

for issues impacting on the elderly is non-government. As a secondary source of improvement, the District of Columbia recommends the Federal government.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	District of Columbia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	26	25	1,215	30
Federal and State governments	25	24	666	16
Nongovernment	33	32	1,108	28
State and local governments	9	9	439	11
Combinations of the above	10	10	600	15
Total	103	100	4,028	100

If we breakout the recommendations by dimension, however, we can see that the District of Columbia believes the primary responsibility for issues relating to the elderly's health and social concerns should rest with non-government sources. However, the District of Columbia believes the Federal government is the best source for assisting the elderly with economic problems.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Sources of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	0	0	19	42	7	16
State and local government	0	0	1	2	8	18
Federal and State government	3	23	14	31	8	18
Nongovernment	9	69	6	13	18	40
Combinations of the above	1	8	5	12	4	8
Total	13	100	45	100	45	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

The District of Columbia believes most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly can be resolved through existing organizations, a belief held by the Nation. As the table below shows, the District of Columbia suggests that 50 percent of its recommendations can be carried out through existing organizations, compared to 41 percent nationwide.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	District of Columbia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	10	10	577	14
Organizations	51	50	1,651	41

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY—Continued

Provider	Recommendations			
	District of Columbia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Budget	13	13	767	19
Monitor	11	10	218	5
Research and development	4	4	297	8
Regulator	8	8	213	5
Combinations of the above	6	5	305	8
Total	103	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

The District of Columbia believes through improved processes and increased funding (money) the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly can be improved. This view is also shared by the Nation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	District of Columbia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	3	3	313	8
Money	32	31	1,449	36
Material	3	3	120	3
Process	55	53	1,188	29
People and money	4	4	690	17
Combinations of the above	6	6	268	7
Total	103	100	4,028	100

FLORIDA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION

To determine what the profile of an individual State might be, we compared Florida's recommendations with those of the Nation. We found that Florida's issues regarding the elderly were similar to those of the Nation. The following table shows that Florida believes economic and social issues are primary concerns of the elderly (35 percent of the recommendations). However, nationwide, economic issues are the primary concern (51 percent) with social issues being second (33 percent).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimensions	Florida		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	6	30	639	16
Economic	7	35	2,043	51
Social	7	35	1,346	33
Total	20	100	4,028	100

Economic dimension

Specific recommendations concerning how the elderly's economic plight could be improved through employment and non-employment programs include:

Eliminating restrictions on earnings for Social Security recipients regardless of age.

Establishing a universal and mandatory pension plan

Having an enlightened retirement program.

Social dimension

Many of the issues surrounding the social aspect of Florida's elderly focus on educating the elderly on the programs available to them. Some of the recommendations include:

Providing programs to motivate the elderly including those with physical handicaps to become involved in recreation or leisure activities.

Funding and expanding consumer education programs for the elderly utilizing senior centers and nutrition sites when possible.

Providing programs for lifelong learning from infancy to old age (life-span education).

Health dimension

The Nation recommends having professionals learn more about aging and how to prevent or treat prevalent disabling illnesses to resolve health problems of the elderly. Florida believes the health problems of their elderly can best be improved by providing services as shown by the following recommendations.

More persons be maintained in the community through home health care and other auxilitary services.

A continuum of services and levels of care for long term care be developed, coordinated, and adequately funded.

A lifelong nutrition program be provided.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE PRIMARILY ACHIEVED THROUGH NON-GOVERNMENT SOURCES

Unlike the Nation, Florida's recommendations show that the source of improvement for issues impacting on the elderly, including those in health, economic, and social dimensions is non-government. Seventy percent of Florida's recommendations suggest non-government as the primary source of improvement compared to 28 percent nationally. As shown in the following table, Florida emphasizes state and local governments (20 percent) as the secondary source for improving the well being of their elderly.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Florida		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal government	1	5	1,215	30
State and local government	4	20	439	11
Federal and State government	1	5	666	16
Nongovernment	14	70	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	0	0	600	15
Total	20	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Florida believes that existing organizations can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (50 percent of their recommendations). As shown in the following table, this belief is shared by the Nation.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Florida		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	2	10	577	14
Organizations	10	50	1,651	41
Budget	8	40	767	19
Monitor	0	0	218	5

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY—Continued

Provider	Recommendations			
	Florida		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Research and development	0	0	297	8
Regulator	0	0	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	20	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Florida believes through improved processes and increased funding the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly can be improved. This view is also shared by the Nation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Florida		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	0	0	313	8
Money	6	30	1,449	36
Material	0	0	120	3
Process	10	50	1,188	29
People and money	4	20	690	17
Combinations of the above	0	0	268	7
Total	20	100	4,028	100

GEORGIA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE NATIONWIDE

Georgia's issues concerning the elderly are similar to those nationwide. As shown in the following table, both Georgia and the Nation believe economic issues (46 and 51 percent, respectively) to be the primary concern of the elderly. The second concern of the elderly in Georgia and the Nation deals with social issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimensions	Georgia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	11	17	639	16
Economic	31	46	2,043	51
Social	25	37	1,346	33
Total	67	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

Georgia recommends that the economic condition of the elderly can be improved by reducing costs, a recommendation also made nationwide. Thirty-two percent of Georgia's recommendations in the economic dimension propose reducing service costs to relieve the financial burden on the elderly. This was also the leading recommendation made nationwide.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN GEORGIA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Georgia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	10	32	764	37
Taxes	4	13	113	6
Reduce durable costs	4	13	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	2	6	106	5
Increase/Maintain Income:				
Employment	7	23	295	15
Nonemployment	4	13	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	31	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced included:

Medicare and Medicaid should be expanded to include preventive and restorative care for eyes, ears, and teeth.

Funding for legal services should be continued.

More funds should be provided for the expansion of nutrition programs and support services for the elderly.

Additional funding should be made available for modified/therapeutic diets.

Improve social concerns through combination of programs and by providing more services

Most of Georgia's social recommendations focus on providing more services and on a combination of programs to improve the social dimension of the elderly. For example, Georgia recommends:

The Federal government should expand the development of multipurpose senior centers to provide the elderly with immediate access to a full range of services.

A re-evaluation should be made of requirements which state that only in-home agencies be permitted to supply services.

All local, State and Federal Agencies on Aging appoint a proportional number of senior citizens for advisory boards, committees, commissions, and other groups dealing with problems and interests of the elderly.

Improve health concerns through research

Eighty-two percent of Georgia's recommendations in the health dimension suggest research as the primary method to improve the health problems of the elderly. Specific recommendations include:

Further research be conducted to identify variables that help people stay healthy in old age.

National research be conducted to determine qualitative effectiveness of existing services to the elderly including education and training programs.

Federal support will continue for research in viable alternatives to long-term care and in-house health care in rural and urban areas.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS

Thirty-seven percent of Georgia's recommendations suggest the source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly is Federal and State governments as opposed to 16 percent nationwide.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Georgia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	18	27	1,215	30
Federal and State government	25	37	666	16
Nongovernment	16	24	1,108	28
State and local government	5	7	439	11
Other combinations	3	5	600	15
Total	67	100	4,028	100

A further analysis of each dimension shows that Georgia believes non-government sources should help the elderly resolve their health problems (64 percent) while Federal and State governments should be the primary source for improving the elderly's economic and social problems (48 and 40 percent, respectively).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	3	27	9	29	6	24
State and local government	0	0	1	3	4	16
Federal and State government	0	0	15	48	10	40
Nongovernment	7	64	4	13	5	20
Other	1	9	2	7	0	0
Total	11	100	31	100	25	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS AND MORE FUNDS

Georgia believes more funds and existing organizations can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (36 and 24 percent, respectively) as shown in the following table.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Georgia		Nation	
	Number	percent	Number	percent
Legislator	9	13	577	14
Organizations	16	24	1,651	41
Budget	24	36	767	19
Monitor	3	5	218	5
Research and development	13	19	297	8
Regulator	2	3	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	67	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Georgia believes more money (57 percent) is the resource needed to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, a view shared by the Nation (36 percent) as the following table shows.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Georgia		Nation	
	Number	percent	Number	percent
People	0	0	313	8
Money	38	57	1,449	36
Material	0	0	120	3
Process	28	42	1,188	29
People and money	1	1	690	17
Combinations of the above	0	0	268	7
Total	67	100	4,028	100

COMPARISON OF HAWAII'S ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THOSE NATIONWIDE

Our comparison of Hawaii's elderly concerns with those nationwide showed economic issues to be the primary concern of the elderly (74 and 51 percent, respectively). Health issues are second in Hawaii (16 percent).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Hawaii		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	14	16	639	16
Economic	64	74	2,043	51
Social	9	10	1,346	33
Total	87	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

Hawaii, like the Nation, believes the economic condition of the elderly could be improved through reduced service costs. Forty-two percent of Hawaii's recommendations propose reducing service costs to relieve the financial burden on the elderly. This was also the leading recommendation made nationwide.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN HAWAII

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Hawaii		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	27	42	764	37
Taxes	4	6	113	6
Reduce durable costs	5	8	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	2	3	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	15	24	295	15
Nonemployment	11	17	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	64	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

Improve and expand Medicare B-Plan to include coverage of dental, hearing, vision, mental health, and drug services.

Non-institutional services be supported; e.g., home care, group homes, meals on wheels, chore services, and health education and that these services be funded with public and private insurances.

Establish lower utility rates per unit for lower consumption.

Improve social concerns through a combination of programs

Hawaii believes the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs. For example, Hawaii recommends:

Negative attitudes of employers, the general public, the media, and seniors themselves toward the continued or new employment of the elderly persons should be counteracted through a vigorous educational and public relations campaign to emphasize employability, skills, and other resources found in our elderly population.

Comprehensive services should be developed to provide support for all elderly victims of abuse, neglect, and exploitation while legal action against the perpetrators is being taken.

Improve health concerns through education and a combination of programs

Seventy-two percent of Hawaii's recommendations in the health dimension suggest improving the health problems of the elderly through education and a combination of programs. Specific recommendation include:

Provide and develop effective health education programs for the promotion and maintenance of health for individuals, groups, families, volunteers, churches and the community at large.

Future manpower needs in gerontology be assessed; certification and licensing standards for gerontological health care personnel be established; and necessary education and training to meet these standards be provided.

Preventive services be increased to improve personal health; e.g., developing or increasing screening and diagnostic tests and counseling to overcome psychological obstacles in going to dentists or doctors.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED BY NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

Thirty-percent of Hawaii's recommendations suggest nongovernment sources to be the primary source for improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Hawaii		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	19	22	1,215	30
State and local government	9	10	439	11
Federal and State government	18	21	666	16
Nongovernment	26	30	1,108	28

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS—Continued

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Hawaii		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Other combinations	15	17	600	15
Total	87	100	4,028	100

A further analysis of each dimension shows Hawaii believes nongovernment sources should help the elderly resolve their health problems (72 percent), the Federal government should be the primary source for improving the elderly's economic plight (25 percent) while state and local governments should be responsible for solving social problems (34 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	2	14	16	25	1	11
State and local government	0	0	6	9	3	34
Federal and State government	1	7	15	23	2	22
Nongovernment	10	72	14	22	2	22
Other	1	7	13	21	1	11
Total	14	100	64	100	9	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Over 50 percent of Hawaii's recommendations suggest resolving most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly through existing organizations. This recommendation was also made by the Nation (41 percent) as shown in the following table.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Hawaii		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	3	3	577	14
Organizations	44	51	1,651	41
Budget	28	32	767	19
Monitor	1	1	218	5
Research and development	4	5	297	8
Regulator	6	7	213	5
Combinations of the above	1	1	305	8
Total	87	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Hawaii believes increased funding (money) as the resource most likely to be affected in improving the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly (49 percent) a view shared by the Nation (36 percent).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Hawaii		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	1	1	313	8
Money	43	49	1,449	36
Material	2	2	120	3
Process	27	31	1,188	29
People and money	11	13	690	17
Combinations of the above	3	4	268	7
Total	87	100	4,028	100

COMPARISON OF IDAHO'S ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THOSE NATIONWIDE

We found Idaho's issues regarding the elderly to be similar to those nationwide. The following table shows economic issues to be the primary concern of the elderly both in Idaho and the Nation (61 and 51 percent, respectively) with social issues second (23 and 33 percent, respectively).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Idaho		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	5	16	639	16
Economic	19	61	2,043	51
Social	7	23	1,346	33
Total	31	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

Idaho and the Nation recommend reducing costs as the best method of improving the economic condition of the elderly as shown in the following table. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 37 percent of both Idaho's and the Nation's economic recommendations suggest reducing service costs as the principal method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN IDAHO

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Idaho		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	7	37	764	37
Taxes	1	6	113	6
Reduce durable costs	1	5	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	0	0	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	5	26	295	15
Non-employment	5	26	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	19	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

Support the development of financing mechanisms for the full range of adult day care and for homemaker services. Such funding mechanisms should consider the variety of need of the elderly for various levels of adult day care.

Medicare should pay 80 percent of current costs. Glasses, hearing aids, dentures, medications (drugs), and mental health should be covered by Medicare on a sliding fee schedule based on monthly income.

Support the continued funding of the Legal Services Corporation and Idaho Legal Services, Inc.

Improve social concerns through a combination of programs

Idaho believes by focusing on a combination of programs the social concerns of the elderly can be improved as indicated by the following recommendations:

Use knowledgeable retired persons in pre-retirement counseling and planning programs in the public and private sectors.

Abandon existing private and public personnel policies that discriminate against older Americans.

Give strong consideration to minority appointments to future White House Conference on aging.

Improve health concerns through research and more care

Idaho believes health problems of the elderly can be improved through research and by providing more care. For example:

Amend nursing home laws and regulations to provide more balanced care to treat the whole person and provide medical, emotional, and support services to meet their individual needs.

Support research into the needs and attitudes specific to the elderly living in rural areas.

Support continued basic research on the bio-medical areas of Cellulor Biology and Neuro-Chemistry.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Twenty-nine percent of Idaho's recommendations suggest improving all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly through the Federal government, a recommendation also made nationally (30 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Idaho		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	9	29	1,215	30
State and local government	8	26	439	11
Federal and State government	4	13	666	16
Nongovernment	2	6	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	8	26	600	15
Total	31	100	4,028	100

Of interest is the following table which shows that Idaho specifies that improvements relating to health and social issues should be the responsibility of state and local governments and other combinations while economic improvements should be the Federal government's responsibility.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	0	0	9	47	0	0
State and local government	2	40	3	16	3	43
Federal and State government	1	20	3	16	0	0
Nongovernment	0	0	1	5	1	14
Other	2	40	3	16	3	43
Total	5	100	19	100	7	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS AND LEGISLATION

Idaho recommends that assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems can be provided by existing organizations with legislation second (29 and 26 percent, respectively).

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Idaho		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	8	26	577	14
Organizations	9	29	1,651	41
Budget	2	6	767	19
Monitor	3	10	218	5
Research and development	5	16	297	8
Regulator	3	10	213	5
Combinations of the above	1	3	305	8
Total	31	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Forty-nine percent of Idaho's recommendations suggest more people and money as the primary resources needed by providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly as opposed to 17 percent nationwide.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Idaho		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People and money	15	49	690	17
People	1	3	313	8
Money	6	19	1,449	36
Process	5	16	1,188	29
Material	0	0	120	3
Combinations of the above	4	13	268	7
Total	31	100	4,028	100

COMPARISON OF ILLINOIS' ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THOSE NATIONWIDE

We compared Illinois' recommendations with those of the Nation and found Illinois' issues regarding the elderly parallel the Nation's. The following table shows economic issues to be the primary concern of the elderly in Illinois (73 percent) and throughout the Nation (51 percent), followed by social issues and lastly by health issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimensions	Illinois		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	2	4	639	16
Economic	32	73	2,043	51
Social	10	23	1,346	33
Total	44	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by increasing and/or maintaining income

According to the Nation's recommendations, the elderly's economic condition could be improved by reducing costs. Illinois, however, recommends that economic problems can best be resolved by increasing and/or maintaining the income of the elderly, as shown in the following table. Forty-four percent of Illinois' recommendations suggest increasing and/or maintaining income through nonemployment programs, like social security. Illinois believes this should be the primary method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN ILLINOIS

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Illinois		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	8	25	764	37
Taxes	0	0	113	6
Reduce durable costs	4	13	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	2	6	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	4	12	295	15
Nonemployment	14	44	492	24

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN ILLINOIS—Continued

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Illinois		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	32	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how the elderly's economic plight could be improved through non-employment programs include:

Social Security benefits should be protected, using general tax revenues to finance the system if necessary.

The Social Security System should be carefully examined and improved. It should be returned to its basic purpose and thereby reinstill the public's confidence in the system and its solvency.

Social programs and Social Security should receive greater priority in Congressional expenditures.

The earnings test in Social Security should be eliminated.

Social concerns stress better knowledge about the reality of growing old

Most of Illinois' social recommendations stress the need for better knowledge about physical, social, and medical reality of growing old. In addition, the recommendations suggest the personal initiative of the elderly should receive more reinforcement from national policies. Specific recommendations include:

Funding should be increased for high-quality basic, applied, and policy research within the field of aging, including support for biomedical, psycho-social, economic, and humanistic aspects of aging, and the linkages among them.

Support should be particularly targeted on research which analyzes alternative ways of educating and communicating the basic core of knowledge about the aging process to those who work in the field and to the general public, especially the elderly.

Research should be on the conditions under which people retire between the ages of 55 and 70, and their situation after retirement—particularly in terms of nature of employment, economic status, and health.

National policy should encourage the personal initiative and involvement of older Americans in a broad range of community activities, particularly programs of self-help and volunteer service, especially those that enable sharing of skills and experience of age with other generations.

National policy should insure opportunities for education, work, and leisure across the full lifespan in such proportions and at such times as to meet the needs of the individual as well as the demands of society and to accommodate the need for individual life styles by the elderly as well as the young.

Illinois stresses comprehensive health care

Most of the Nation's recommendations on how to resolve the health problems of the elderly focus on having professionals learn more about aging and how to prevent disabling illnesses. Illinois, however, stresses comprehensive health care including health care support services. Illinois' health recommendations include:

Congress should adopt a national health service.

Local health care networks should be developed and funded which includes adequate transportation to and from health services; and programs for health maintenance and disease prevention.

A comprehensive information and referral service should be established to enable individuals to obtain knowledge and help in receiving needed health care services.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH MULTIPLE SOURCES

Thirty-nine percent of Illinois' recommendations suggest improving issues impacting on the elderly through a combination of sources, as opposed to 15 percent by the Nation, as shown in the following table.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Illinois		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	16	36	1,215	30
Federal and State government	7	16	666	16
Nongovernment	1	2	1,108	28
State and local government	3	7	439	11
Combinations of the above	17	39	600	15
Total	44	100	4,028	100

As shown in the following table, Illinois specifies that improvements relating to health and social issues should be the responsibility of a combination of sources while economic improvements for the elderly should be the Federal government's responsibility.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	0	0	12	38	4	40
State and local government	0	0	3	9	0	0
Federal and State government	0	0	7	22	0	0
Nongovernment	0	0	1	3	0	0
Other combinations	2	100	9	28	6	60
Total	2	100	32	100	10	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH MORE FUNDS

Illinois believes more funds through budget considerations can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (39 percent of their recommendations). The Nation, on the other hand, believes existing organizations can best resolve the issues affecting the elderly (41 percent of the recommendations), as the following table shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Illinois		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	11	25	577	14
Organizations	3	6	1,651	41
Budget	17	39	767	19
Monitor	0	0	218	5
Research and development	2	5	297	8
Regulator	2	5	213	5
Combinations of the above	9	20	305	8
Total	44	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Illinois believes through increased funding (money) the health, economic, and social conditions can be improved by providers (43 percent of their recommendations), as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Illinois		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	0	0	313	8
Money	19	43	1,449	36
Material	0	0	120	3
Process	17	39	1,188	29
People and money	4	9	690	17
Combinations of the above	4	9	268	7
Total	44	100	4,028	100

INDIANA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION'S CONCERNS

A comparison of Indiana's issues regarding the elderly with those of the Nation showed them to be similar. For example, the elderly in Indiana and the Nation are primarily concerned with economic issues (52 and 51 percent, respectively) with social issues second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Indiana		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	12	20	639	16
Economic	31	52	2,043	51
Social	17	28	1,346	33
Total	60	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition through nonemployment programs

Indiana believes the economic plight of the elderly could be improved by increasing and/or maintaining income through non/employment programs (like increase in Social Security benefits). As the following table shows, 39 percent of Indiana's recommendations suggest non-employment programs to relieve the financial burden on the elderly.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN INDIANA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Indiana		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	9	29	764	37
Taxes	1	3	113	6
Reduce durable costs	0	0	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	0	0	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	9	29	295	15
Nonemployment	12	39	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	31	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how the elderly's economic plight can be improved through non-employment programs include:

The Social Security system should be subjected to re-evaluation; no system revision should reduce or tax benefits to the elderly.

Food stamp programs should be monitored more closely.

Lifetime investments by older Americans should be protected by a federally established insurance program similar to bond deposit guarantee under FDIC.

Social concerns can be improved through a combination of programs

The issues surrounding the social aspects of Indiana's elderly focus on a combination of programs (53 percent of the social recommendations). For example, Indiana recommends:

All religious bodies should be encouraged to provide leadership in raising consciousness of the spiritual well-being of older Americans.

The Congress should pass the Victims of Crime Act to subsidize states which operate programs to compensate victims of crime.

Education, research, and continuing education opportunities should be supported by appropriate funding allocations for the benefit of the aging and aged.

Improve health concerns by providing more services

Indiana believes health problems of the elderly can best be improved by providing more services as shown by the following recommendations:

The government should provide vocational training for unemployed persons to function as home health care aids.

The government should establish Well Elderly Clinics.

Additional federal funding should be allocated to expand the total nutrition programs.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Indiana, like the Nation, believes the source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly is the Federal government. Fifty-three percent of Indiana's recommendations and 30 percent of the Nation's show the Federal government as the primary source for improvement.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Indiana		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	32	53	1,215	30
State and local government	0	0	439	11
Federal and State government	6	10	666	16
Non-government	7	12	1,108	28
Other combinations	15	25	600	15
Total	60	100	4,208	100

A breakout of each dimension in the following table shows that Indiana believes the Federal government should be the primary source for improving the economic and social issues of the elderly (71 and 35 percent, respectively) while a combination of Federal government and non-government sources should help the elderly resolve their health problems (33 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	4	33	22	71	6	35
State and local government	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal and State government	1	9	2	6	3	18
Nongovernment	4	33	0	0	3	18
Other combinations	3	25	7	23	5	29
Total	12	100	31	100	17	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH COMBINATION OF PROVIDERS

Indiana believes that a combination of providers can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (33 percent of their recommendations). However, the Nation believes existing organizations can best resolve issues affecting the elderly (41 percent).

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Indiana		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	16	27	577	14
Organizations	8	13	1,651	41
Budget	9	15	767	19
Monitor	6	10	218	5
Research and development	0	0	297	8
Regulator	1	2	213	5
Combinations of the above	20	33	305	8
Total	60	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Indiana believes changing current processes as the resource most likely to be affected in improving the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly (52 percent of their recommendations).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resource	Indiana		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	0	0	313	8
Money	13	22	1,449	36
Material	0	0	120	3
Process	31	52	1,188	29
People and money	4	6	690	17
Combinations of the above	12	20	268	7
Total	60	100	4,028	100

IOWA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION'S

By comparing the elderly recommendations made by Iowa with those of the Nation, we found that Iowa's issues regarding the elderly were similar to those of the Nation as a whole.

The following table shows that both Iowa and the Nation believe the primary concerns of older people are economic issues. Thirty-nine percent of Iowa's recommendations and 51 percent of the Nation's recommendations are economic. The second concern of the elderly in Iowa, as well as nationally, deals with social issues, followed by concerns regarding health issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Iowa		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	16	25	639	16
Economic	25	39	2,043	51
Social	23	36	1,346	33
Total	64	100	4,028	100

Economic condition can be improved through non-employment programs

Iowa believes the economic plight of the elderly could be improved by increasing/maintaining income through non-employment programs (like increase in Social Security benefits). As the table shows, 44 percent of Iowa's recommendations suggest increasing/maintaining income through non-employment programs.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON IOWA'S ELDERLY

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Iowa		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	6	24	764	37
Taxes	1	4	113	6
Reduce durable costs	0	0	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	1	4	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	6	24	295	15
Nonemployment	11	44	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	25	100	2,043	100

Most of Iowa's recommendations for improving the elderly's economic situation concerned the Social Security System. For example:

Workers have the option to retire with full benefits at age 65.

Deficits incurred by the Social Security Administration be compensated from the general revenue funds.

A ceiling be placed on the top amount of Social Security payments.

Health concerns can be improved through training for professionals and better institutionalized health care

Most of Iowa's recommendations concerning how to resolve the health problems of the elderly focus on issues concerning the institutionalized elderly and training of health care professionals. For example:

Increase the amount of Federal funds available for expansion to the full spectrum of institutional health care services.

Abolish the 3-day mandatory hospitalization requirement prior to admission to a skilled facility.

States establish minimum requirements and funding for the education and training in gerontology of paraprofessionals serving the elderly, and require course work in gerontology in the continuing education of professionals and paraprofessionals.

Social concerns stress coordination of services to the elderly and elimination of age discrimination

Iowa's social recommendations, like the Nation's social recommendations are concerned with improving services to the elderly through better program coordination. In addition, many of Iowa's social recommendations are concerned with dispelling the negative conception of aging and eliminating age discrimination. For example:

Establish a structure to provide services to the elderly and foster cooperative and coordinated planning at the federal, state, and local levels.

Seek greater consistency among federal programs and agencies in the use of definitions, regulations, eligibility requirements, and reporting.

Monitor the Age Discrimination Act with federal government development of affirmative action plans.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPROVEMENTS RESTS WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Forty-seven percent of Iowa's recommendations suggest improving issues impacting on the elderly through the Federal government. Iowa also believes the next source of improvement is non-government sources (23 percent), as shown in the below table. These statistics agree with the overall statistics for the Nation.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Iowa		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal government	30	47	1,215	30
Nongovernment	15	23	1,108	28
Federal and State government	9	14	666	16
State and local government	3	5	439	11
Combinations of the above	7	11	600	15
Total	64	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Iowa's recommendations suggest that existing organizations can provide the assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems (36 percent of their recommendations). This belief is shared nationwide, (41 percent) as shown in the following table.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Iowa		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	9	14	577	14
Organizations	23	36	1,651	41
Budget	14	22	767	19
Monitor	6	9	218	5
Research and development	10	16	297	8
Regulator	2	3	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	64	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Forty-four percent of Iowa's recommendations suggest process changes as the primary resource necessary for providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, unlike the Nation which specifies increased funding (money) as the pri-

mary resource. However, Iowa's second choice of resources is increased funding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Iowa		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	6	9	313	8
Money	23	36	1,449	36
Process	28	44	1,188	29
Material	1	2	120	3
People and money	6	9	690	17
Combinations of the above	0	0	268	7
Total	64	100	4,028	100

KANSAS' ELDERLY CONCERNS ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE NATIONWIDE

We found Kansas' issues regarding the elderly to be similar to those throughout the Nation. The following table shows economic issues to be the primary concern of the elderly both in Kansas and the Nation (60 and 51 percent, respectively) with social issues second (27 and 33 percent, respectively).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Kansas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	20	13	639	16
Economic	93	60	2,043	51
Social	43	27	1,346	33
Total	156	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

Kansas and the Nation suggest reducing costs as the best method of improving the economic condition of the elderly. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 33 percent of Kansas' recommendations suggest reducing service costs as the principal method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly, a recommendation also made nationwide (37 percent) as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN KANSAS

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Kansas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	31	33	764	37
Taxes	4	4	113	6
Reduce durable costs	18	20	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	6	7	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	15	16	295	15
Nonemployment	18	19	492	24
Combinations of the above	1	1	64	3
Total	93	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

Colleges and universities should be required to offer reduced tuition to the elderly enrolling in college courses for credit or continuing education.

Rural transportation should be established as a national priority with adequate funding to meet the needs of the rural elderly population.

Funding should be available through federal sources to provide for those outreach and support services that promote good mental health.

The range of services eligible for Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement should be expanded to include various forms of community based health care, preventive health care, and excluded items such as eye glasses, hearing aids, etc.

Improve social concerns through a combination of programs

Kansas believes the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs as shown by the following recommendations:

As an advocate for aging persons, the Administration on Aging should promote a positive image of aging and provide opportunites for knowledgeable, effective older persons to interact with younger people.

The Aging Network needs to educate, inform, and advocate for the elderly in matters relating to the media to assure accurate information and depiction of the elderly.

The Federal government should provide funding and direction to enable appropriate research effort regarding minority culture, spiritual well-being, religious base, and ethical convictions, and the implications of these for policy development.

Improve health concerns through research and education

Kansas believes health problems of the elderly can be improved through research and education. For example, Kansas recommends:

The National Cancer institute be directed to create programs of clinical research specifically directed to the elderly.

Research should be directed to focus on reducing or eliminating pathological, physical, and social conditions that lead to premature aging and dependency.

Research should place emphasis on all national institutes to include geriatric and gerontological research.

In-service and continuing education programs should be required to include geriatric or gerontological components for those professionals who provide service to older adults.

Effective educational courses on death and dying should be developed as a joint project by the Administration on Aging and the Department of Education to provide a quality program to schools and the aging network.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Thirty-five percent of Kansas' recommendations suggest improving the health, economic, and social issues impacting on the elderly primarily through the Federal government, a recommendation also made nationally (30 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Kansas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	55	35	1,215	30
State and local government	35	23	439	11
Federal and State government	39	25	666	16
Nongovernment	16	10	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	11	7	600	15
Total	156	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Kansas believes that existing organizations can provide the assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems (39 percent of their recommendations). This belief is shared by the Nation (41 percent) as the following table shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Kansas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	35	23	577	14
Organizations	61	39	1,651	41
Budget	16	11	767	19
Monitor	24	15	218	5
Research and development	8	5	297	8
Regulator	10	6	213	5
Combinations of the above	2	1	305	8
Total	156	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Contrary to the views of the Nation, Kansas believes more people and money (35 percent) to be the resources needed by providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Kansas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	3	2	313	8
Money	49	31	1,449	36
Process	25	16	1,188	29
Material	10	7	120	3
People and money	55	35	690	17
Combinations of the above	14	9	268	7
Total	156	100	4,028	100

COMPARISON OF KENTUCKY'S ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THOSE NATIONWIDE

Kentucky's recommendations suggest social issues (43 percent) to be the primary concern of their elderly with economic issues second (39 percent). However, the Nation's recommendations focus on the economic dimension (51 percent) as the principal concern of the elderly.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimensions	Kentucky		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	17	18	639	16
Economic	37	39	2,043	51
Social	41	43	1,346	33
Total	95	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by increasing and/or maintaining income

The Nation recommends that the elderly's economic condition be improved by reducing costs. Kentucky, on the other hand, believes their elderly's economic problems can best be resolved by increasing and/or maintaining income through non-employment programs, like social security (38 percent of the economic recommendations).

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN KENTUCKY

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Kentucky		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	6	16	295	15
Nonemployment	14	38	492	24
Reduce costs:				
Taxes	8	22	113	6
Reduce durable costs	1	3	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	2	5	106	5
Reduce service costs	6	16	764	37
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	37	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how the elderly's financial burden could be relieved through non-employment programs include:

The Congress should search Social Security regulations to identify and correct inequalities in Social Security based on sex and marital status.

Social services, Medicaid, and Medicare should be paid out of the general fund instead of social security.

Increase Supplemental Security Income to at least the national poverty level to make up for past discriminations in employment to minorities, women, and middle-aged widows and divorcees.

Improve social concerns by combining programs

Kentucky believes the social concerns of their elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs, as shown in the following recommendations:

Educate society and the elderly for a better understanding of the abilities and skills of elderly persons. Emphasize the advantages of using their knowledge, experience, and wisdom.

The Federal government should give additional authority to an elected representative advisory council to coordinate and monitor spending and service delivery as they affect the elderly.

The government should seek ways to provide incentives to encourage private enterprise to provide financial, health, and leisure pursuit planning.

Seek greater input from older persons about programs involving themselves.

Provide financial support for business ventures for older persons.

Improve health concerns by combining programs

Thirty-five percent of Kentucky's recommendations suggest improving the health problems of their elderly through a combination of programs. For example, Kentucky recommends:

Pharmacists, drug sales representatives, physicians, and health care extenders need continuing education on pharmacology as related to the aging process.

Legislation should be enacted that will establish a comprehensive national health care plan which includes long-term care.

The 1981 White House Conference on Aging should encourage senior citizens to monitor, advocate, and be leaders in providing for the care needs of the elderly.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND A COMBINATION OF FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS

Kentucky recommends the Federal government and a combination of Federal and state governments as the primary source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly, as shown by the following table:

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Kentucky		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	26	27	1,215	30
State and local government	5	6	439	11
Federal and State government	26	27	666	16
Nongovernment	18	19	1,108	28
Other combinations	20	21	600	15
Total	95	100	4,028	100

A further analysis of each dimension shows Kentucky believes non-government sources should help the elderly resolve their health problems (41 percent), the Federal government should be the primary source for improving the elderly's economic plight (54 percent), while Federal and State governments should bear the responsibility for solving social issues (39 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendation by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	3	18	20	54	3	7
State and local government	2	12	1	3	2	5
Federal and State government	2	12	8	22	16	39
Nongovernment	7	41	6	16	5	12
Other combinations	3	17	2	5	15	37
Total	17	100	37	100	41	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Kentucky's recommendations suggest that existing organizations can provide the assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems (61 percent of their recommendations). This belief is shared nationwide, (41 percent) as shown in the following table.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Kentucky		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	20	21	577	14
Organizations	58	61	1,651	41
Budget	6	7	767	19
Monitor	4	4	218	5
Research and development	2	2	297	8
Regulator	2	2	213	5
Combinations of the above	3	3	305	8
Total	95	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Forty-five percent of Kentucky's recommendations suggest more people and increased funding (money) as the resource needed for providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Kentucky		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	42	44	313	8
Money	4	4	1,449	36
Material	1	1	120	3
Process	2	2	1,188	29
People and money	43	45	690	17
Combinations of the above	3	4	268	7
Total	95	100	4,028	100

LOUISIANA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL NATIONAL CONCERNS

A comparison of Louisiana's issues regarding the elderly with those of the Nation showed them to be similar. The following table shows economic issues are the primary concern of the elderly in Louisiana and the Nation (51 percent of their recommendations) with social issues second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Louisiana		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	11	11	639	16
Economic	52	51	2,043	51
Social	39	38	1,346	33
Total	102	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

Louisiana agrees with the Nation's recommendation that the economic condition of the elderly could be improved by reducing costs. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows 29 percent of Louisiana's recommendations suggest reducing service costs as the principal method of relieving the elderly's financial burden. This recommendation was also made by the Nation (37 percent), as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN LOUISIANA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Louisiana		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	15	29	764	37
Taxes	7	13	113	6
Reduce durable costs	12	23	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	6	11	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	6	12	295	15
Nonemployment	6	12	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	52	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

Increase Medicaid in-home care and make provision for increased Title XX homemaker services to avoid institutionalization.

Provide multi-year funding to ensure adequate and consistent services, with escalation clauses to cover inflation.

Change state Medicaid plans to allow for payment of homemaker/home health services, day care for adults, and respite care.

Improve social concerns through a combination of programs

Louisiana believes the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs. For example, Louisiana recommends:

Research shoud be done on social/economic needs prior to eliminating programs.

Encourage the development of skills and talents.

Provide a communication network on available services.

Develop a comprehensive, coordinated service delivery system with multi-purpose community centers.

Encourage Senior Centers to develop community resources.

Improve health concerns through training and research

Louisiana recommends improving the health problems of the elderly through training and research. For example:

Do more geriatric training and research, especially on medications for the elderly.

Research is needed on long-term care, elderly abuse, home care, housing, mental/spiritual health, and their inter-relationships, in order to determine optimum means of service provision and care for the elderly.

Research that has been done or is now in process should be coordinated and use made of cross-national data in solving the problems of the elderly.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDEAL AND STATE AND NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

Louisiana's recommendations suggest Federal and state governments and non-government sources to be equally important in improving all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Louisiana		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	17	17	1,215	30
State and local government	10	10	439	11
Federal and State government	28	27	666	16
Nongovernment	28	27	1,108	28
Other combinations	19	19	600	15
Total	102	100	4,028	100

A breakout of each dimension shows that Louisiana believes a combination of Federal and Federal and state government sources should help resolve the elderly's health problems (27 percent), Federal and state governments should be the primary source for improving economic issues (42 percent) while non-government sources should be responsible for solving social problems (44 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal government	3	27	14	27	0	0
State and local government	1	10	2	4	7	18
Federal and state government	3	27	22	42	3	7
Non-government	2	18	9	17	17	44
Other combinations	2	18	5	10	12	31
Total	11	100	52	100	39	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS AND A COMBINATION OF PROVIDERS

Louisiana believes existing organizations and a combination of providers can furnish the help needed to resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly as the following table shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Louisiana		Nation	
	Number	percent	Number	percent
Legislator	21	21	577	14
Organizations	32	31	1,651	41
Budget	3	3	767	19
Monitor	4	4	218	5
Research and development	8	8	297	8
Regulator	2	2	213	5
Combinations of the above	32	31	305	8
Total	102	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Louisiana and the Nation believe increased funding (money) to be the resource most likely to be affected in improving the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly (38 and 36 percent, respectively) as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Louisiana		Nation	
	Number	percent	Number	percent
People	17	17	313	8
Money	39	38	1,449	36
Process	9	9	1,188	29
Material	4	4	120	3
People and money	24	23	690	17
Combinations of the above	9	9	268	7
Total	102	100	4,028	100

MAINE'S ELDERLY CONCERNS ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE NATIONWIDE

Maine's issues concerning the elderly are similar to those nationwide. As shown in the following table, both Maine and the Nation believe economic issues (56 and 51 percent, respectively) to be the primary concern of the elderly with social concerns second (41 and 33 percent, respectively).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Maine		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	2	3	639	16
Economic	40	56	2,043	51
Social	29	41	1,346	33
Total	71	100	4,028	100

Improve economic conditions by reducing costs

Sixty percent of Maine's economic recommendations suggest improving the economic condition of the elderly by reducing costs, a recommendation also made nationwide (58 percent). A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that Maine's recommendations propose relieving the financial burden on the elderly by reducing the cost of durables and services.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN MAINE

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations					
	Maine			Nation		
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
Costs:						
Reduce service costs	7	18	60	764	37	58
Taxes	5	12		113	6	
Reduce durable costs	8	20		209	10	
Reduce nondurable costs	4	10		106	5	
Increase/maintain income:						
Employment	2	5		295	15	
Nonemployment	14	35		492	24	
Combinations of the above	0	0		64	3	
Total	40	100		2,043	100	

Specific recommendations on how durable costs can be reduced include:

A shared homes program be developed and implemented by the State of Maine and, if necessary, funding for such a program shall come from reallocation of existing housing resources.

The legislature appropriate seed money to be administered by a citizen's group appointed by the Governor and made up primarily of the elderly to encourage, fund, and evaluate a variety of informal community based innovative and creative residential solutions to housing problems for the elderly.

Place a limit on unreasonable profit in rents; eliminate security deposits for the elderly.

Improve social concerns by providing more opportunities/alternatives

Maine's recommendations focus on providing opportunities and alternatives to improve social concerns of the elderly. For example:

The 1980 Blaine House Conference on Aging supports the intent of the proposed legislation submitted by the Bureau of Insurance to establish minimum standards for Medicare supplement insurance policies.

The roles and responsibilities of the Bureau of Maine's Elderly be strengthened in long-term care service development.

The Bureau of Maine's Elderly and the Maine State Housing authority conduct a study and make a report by October 1981 or sooner to the older citizens of Maine concerning the options regarding Home Equity Utilization.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Seventy-five percent of Maine's recommendations suggest improving the health, economic, and social issues impacting on the elderly through state and local governments, as opposed to 11 percent nationwide. Federal government sources are considered second by Maine.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Maine		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	13	18	1,215	30
State and local government	53	75	439	11
Federal and State government	3	4	666	16
Nongovernment	2	3	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	0	0	600	15
Total	71	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Maine believes that existing organizations can provide the assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems (34 percent of their recommendations). Forty-one

percent of the Nation's recommendations also suggest organizations as the principle provider.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Maine		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	22	31	577	14
Organizations	24	34	1,651	41
Budget	20	28	767	19
Monitor	1	1	218	5
Research and development	4	6	297	8
Regulator	0	0	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	71	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Sixty-one percent of Maine's recommendations suggest increased funding (money) as the primary resource necessary for providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, a view shared nationwide (36 percent), as shown in the following table.

Recommendations

Resources	Maine		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	0	0	313	8
Money	43	61	1,449	36
Process	23	32	1,188	29
Material	3	4	120	3
People and money	0	0	690	17
Combinations of the above	2	3	268	7
Total	71	100	4,028	100

MARYLAND STATE ISSUES ON AGING FOR THE 1980's

MARYLAND'S ELDERLY CONCERNS ARE SIMILAR TO THE NATION

Maryland's issues regarding the elderly are similar to those throughout the Nation. The following table shows both Maryland and the Nation believe economic issues to be the primary concern of the elderly (55 and 51 percent, respectively) with social issues being second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Maryland		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	26	22	639	16
Economic	65	55	2,043	51
Social	27	23	1,346	33
Total	118	100	4,028	100

Improved economic condition by increasing and/or maintaining income

Nationally, the elderly's economic condition could be improved by reducing costs. However, Maryland recommends that economic problems can best be resolved by increasing and/or maintaining the income of the elderly as shown in the following table. A further analysis of the economic dimension, as shown in the following table, shows that 46 percent of Maryland's recommendations suggest increasing and/or maintaining income through non-employment programs, like social security. Maryland believes this should be the primary method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN MARYLAND

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Maryland		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Increase/maintain income				
Employment	9	14	295	15
Nonemployment	30	46	492	24
Costs				
Taxes	2	3	113	6
Reduce durable costs	6	9	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	3	5	106	5
Reduce service costs	15	23	764	37
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	65	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how the elderly's economic plight could be improved through non-employment programs include:

Raise eligibility proportionately when Social Security is raised.

Increase the amount a beneficiary can earn without affecting Social Security benefits.

Change the special maximum Social Security retirement benefit by increasing the maximum credited years from 30 to 35, thereby increasing benefits.

Maintain the Food Stamp program.

Standardize income eligibility requirements for all benefit programs for the elderly.

Support maintenance and extension of cost-of-living adjustment in pensions.

Social concerns can be improved through education

Maryland's recommendations focus on education programs to improve social concerns of the elderly. For example:

Provide nutrition education to both consumers and providers including information about the reaction of medicine, alcohol, drugs and nutrition.

Provide Federal funds to support education of the public through the media to change stereotypes of old age.

Continue training and education on the images of aging to the general public.

Strengthen senior centers as designated community focal points to support a coordinated effort between service providers, centers, and clubs.

Improve health concerns through research and education

Maryland believes health problems of the elderly can be improved through research, education, and by providing more help. For example:

Conduct research into the theoretical process of aging and develop better measures of aging then chronological age to assess physiologic, psychologic, and functional status.

Research the acceptance and rejection of aging by individuals and the impact of these attitudes on mental health well-being.

Provide health education and consumer awareness in the areas of normal and pathological aging processes.

Address the physical rehabilitation policy for the infirm and disabled elderly.

Encourage Maryland community hospitals to provide facilities for holding and observing elderly persons who are acutely mentally ill.

Expand community support services especially family support, day care, respite care, and in-home care services.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Maryland believes the primary source of improvement for issues impacting on the elderly on all dimensions is the Federal government (33 percent of their recommendations), a belief shared by the Nation (30 percent). Non-government sources were considered to be second, as shown in the following table.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Maryland		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	39	33	1,215	30
Nongovernment	29	25	1,109	28
Federal and State government	14	12	666	16
State and local government	20	17	439	11
Combinations of the above	16	13	600	15
Total	118	100	4,029	100

By dimension, however, a difference exists by source in Maryland. Maryland specifies that improvements relating to health and social issues should be the responsibility of non-government sources while economic improvements for the elderly should be the Federal government's responsibility, as shown in the following table.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	2	8	32	49	5	19
State and local government	1	4	13	20	6	22
Federal and State government	4	15	9	14	1	4
Nongovernment	16	62	4	6	9	33
Other	3	11	7	11	6	22
Total	26	100	65	100	27	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY PROVIDED THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Maryland's recommendations suggest that existing organizations can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (34 percent of their recommendations). As shown in the following table, this suggestion was also recommended by the Nation (41 percent).

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Maryland		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	29	25	577	14
Organizations	40	34	1,651	41
Budget	9	8	767	19
Monitor	11	9	218	5
Research and development	11	9	297	8
Regulator	18	15	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	118	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Contrary to the views of the Nation, Maryland believes more people and increased funding (money) as the resources most needed to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Maryland		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	0	0	313	8
Money	29	25	1,449	36
Material	13	11	128	3
Process	23	19	1,188	29
People and money	42	36	690	17
Combinations of the above	11	9	268	7
Total	118	100	4,028	100

Massachusetts State Issues on Aging in the 1980's

COMPARISON OF MASSACHUSETTS' ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THE NATION

Contrary to the views throughout the Nation, Massachusetts believes the elderly are principally concerned with social issues, with economic issues being second. Forty-seven percent of their recommendations focus on the social dimension as opposed to 33 percent nationally.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Massachusetts		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	16	14	639	16
Economic	46	39	2,043	51
Social	56	47	1,346	33
Total	118	100	4,028	100

Reducing costs can improve the economic condition of the elderly

Massachusetts recommends reducing costs as the method for improving the economic condition of the elderly, a recommendation suggested by the Nation. Further analyzing the economic dimension, we found 41 percent of Massachusetts' recommendations propose reducing service costs to relieve the financial burden on the elderly, a recommendation also made by the Nation (37 percent), as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON MASSACHUSETTS' ELDERLY

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Massachusetts		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	19	41	764	37
Taxes	3	7	113	6
Reduce durable costs	2	4	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	3	7	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	3	6	295	15
Nonemployment	16	35	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	46	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

Nutrition programs shall provide for the reimbursement of transporting persons and home delivered meals

The nutrition program shall be made available 7 days a week.

Publicly funded legal services for the elderly shall provide legal advice and representation to individuals and groups by attorneys and para-legals.

Extend the present Medicare system to include mental health care, eyeglasses, foot care, home visits, more medications, hearing aids and other out of hospital expenses.

Social concerns can be improved through a combination of programs

Massachusetts believes the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs, as shown by the following recommendations:

Governmental agencies responsible for the administration and enforcement of anti-age discrimination laws and regulations shall enforce them in an active manner and shall provide the necessary resources and support to handle those responsibilities effectively.

All public and private industry which plays a role in shaping public opinions and attitudes shall establish industry wide codes aimed at eliminating ageism.

Nutrition education shall be promoted through the mass media and as an integral part of the nutrition program.

Publicly funded recreational facilities and equipment shall be available to and accessible to persons 60 and over.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH MULTIPLE SOURCES

Thirty-four percent of Massachusetts' recommendations suggest improving issues impacting on the elderly through a combination of sources, as opposed to 15 percent by the Nation, as shown in the following table.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Massachusetts		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	32	27	1,215	30
State and local government	8	7	439	11
Federal and State government	23	19	665	16
Nongovernment	15	13	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	40	34	600	15
Total	118	100	4,028	100

As shown in the following table, Massachusetts specifies that improvements relating to health and social issues should be the responsibility of a combination of sources while economic improve-

ments for the elderly should be the Federal government's responsibility.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	5	31	23	50	4	7
State and local government	0	0	0	0	8	14
Federal and State government	2	13	13	28	8	14
Nongovernment	1	6	5	11	9	17
Other	8	50	5		27	48
Total	16	100	46	100	56	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS AND MORE FUNDS

Massachusetts' recommendations suggest that a combination of providers, (31 percent) and existing organizations (23 percent) could provide the assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems. The Nation recommends existing organzations (41 percent) as the principle provider of help to the elderly.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Massachusetts		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	16	14	577	14
Organizations	27	23	1,651	41
Budget	21	18	767	19
Monitor	9	8	218	5
Research and development	5	4	297	8
Regulators	3	2	213	5
Combinations of the above	37	31	305	8
Total	118	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Forty-one percent of Massachusetts' recommendations suggest increased funding (money) as the necessary resource to enable the providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, a recommendation also made nationwide (36 percent) as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Massachusetts		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	10	8	313	8
Money	48	41	1,449	36
Process	12	10	1,188	29
Material	0	0	120	3
People and money	36	31	690	17
Combinations of the above	12	10	268	7
Total	118	100	4,028	100

MICHIGAN STATE ISSUES ON AGING FOR THE 1980's

MICHIGAN'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION

We compared Michigan's elderly concerns with those of the Nation and found them to be similar. As the table below shows, most of Michigan's elderly concerns are economic (45 percent) compared to 51 percent for the Nation with social concerns second (40 percent for Michigan and 33 percent nationwide).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Michigan		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	23	15	639	16
Economic	66	45	2,043	51
Social	59	40	1,346	33
Total	148	100	4,028	100

Economic condition improved by reducing service costs

Michigan and the Nation believe the economic plight of the elderly could be improved through reduced service costs. As the table below shows, recommendations to reduce service costs totaled over 31 percent for both Michigan and the Nation.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN MICHIGAN

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Michigan		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Taxes	0	0	113	6
Reduce durable costs	14	21	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	3	5	106	5
Reduce service costs	21	32	764	37
Increase/Maintain Income:				
Employment	6	9	295	15
Nonemployment	20	30	492	24
Combinations of the above	2	3	64	3
Total	66	100	2,043	100

Most of Michigan's recommendations for improving the economic condition of the elderly through reduced service costs are concerned with caring for the elderly particularly their health care needs. For example:

Vision, hearing, and dental health education and care be made available to the elderly.

The scope of coverage of Medicare be expanded to include home health services which are not predicated on skilled nursing criteria.

Adult day services be available for families or significant others who care for dependent elderly.

Health concerns are similar to the Nation's

Most of the Nation's recommendations concerning how to resolve the health problems of the elderly focus on having professionals learn more about aging and how to prevent disabling illnesses. Michigan also expresses many of these same concerns and addresses some specific health problems. For example:

Curricula for professionals in all health-related disciplines should include requirements for training in the field of gerontology.

Funds should be made available to educate the staff of human service agencies and facilities, health professionals and elderly consumers, so that counseling and treatment services are provided to meet the needs of the elderly with drug and alcohol problems.

Funds should be made available for physical and mental health education and promotion at the state and local level.

Social recommendations emphasize protecting the elderly

The Nation's social recommendations are concerned with improving services through better program coordination. Although some of Michigan's social recommendations were also concerned with improving services through better coordination, most of Michigan's social recommendations emphasized protecting the elderly from crime as well as from discrimination and other inequities of society. For example:

Action at the national level be taken to maximize elderly independence in coping with crime, the threat of crime, and the consequences of crime.

The older population and the national senior advocacy groups be made aware of the reality of discrimination now existing in communication media.

Federal guidelines should protect the elderly during the process of condominium conversion.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Michigan's recommendations, like the Nation, suggest that the source of improvement for issues impacting on the elderly including those in the health, economic, and social dimensions is the Federal government. Forty percent of Michigan's recommendations and 30 percent of the Nation's recommendations suggest the Federal government as the primary source for improvement, as shown in the following table.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Michigan		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	59	40	1,215	30
State and local government	12	8	439	11
Federal and State government	29	20	666	16
Nongovernment	23	15	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	25	17	600	15
Total	148	100	4,028	100

A breakout for each dimension for Michigan in the following table shows that although Michigan believes the Federal government should be the primary source for improving the economic condition of the elderly, some of the responsibility for assisting the elderly should be shared with the state government for health problems. A combination of Federal government and non-government sources should help the elderly resolve their social problems.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	6	26	39	59	14	24
State and local government	3	13	1	2	8	13
Federal and State government	6	26	10	15	13	22
Nongovernment	5	22	8	12	10	17
Other	3	13	8	12	14	24
Total	23	100	66	100	59	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH A COMBINATION OF PROVIDERS

Over 50 percent of Michigan's recommendations suggest that a combination of providers could resolve the health, economic, and social concerns of the elderly as opposed to 8 percent nationwide.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Michigan		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	25	17	577	14
Organizations	34	23	1,651	41
Budget	2	1	767	19
Monitor	5	3	218	5
Research and development	1	1	297	8
Regulator	5	3	213	5
Combinations of the above	76	52	305	8
Total	148	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Michigan believes increased funding (money) can best improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly (45 percent of their recommendations). This view was shared nationwide (36 percent) as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Michigan		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	13	9	313	8
Money	67	45	1,449	36
Material	1	1	120	3
Process	5	3	1,188	29
People and money	38	26	690	17
Combinations of the above	24	16	268	7
Total	148	100	4,028	100

MINNESOTA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION'S CONCERNS

By comparing the elderly recommendations made by Minnesota with those of the Nation, we found that Minnesota's issues regarding the elderly were similar to those of the Nations as a whole.

The following table shows that both Minnesota and the Nation believe the primary concerns of the elderly are economic issues. Forty-five percent or more of the total issues are ecomomic for both Minnesota and the Nation. The second concern of the elderly in Minnesota, as well as nationally, deals with social issues (34 percent of the total issues are social for Minnesota; 33 percent for the Nation) followed by concerns regarding health issues (21 percent of the total issues are health for Minnesota; 16 percent for the Nation).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Minnesota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	26	21	639	16
Economic	55	45	2,043	51
Social	42	34	1,346	33
Total	123	100	4,028	100

Economic condition can be improved through reduced service costs

Minnesota, like the Nation, believes the economic condition of the elderly could be improved through reduced service costs. Recommendations to reduce service costs total over 37 percent for both Minnesota and the Nation, as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN MINNESOTA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Minnesota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	24	44	764	37
Taxes	1	2	113	6
Reduce durable costs	5	9	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	2	4	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	14	25	295	15
Nonemployment	9	16	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	55	100	2,043	100

Most of Minnesota's recommendations for reducing costs are concerned with reducing costs of long-term and in-home health care. For example:

More Medicaid, Medicare and other funds should be directed toward support to non-institutionalized long-term care.

Discrimination due to residents' and clients' financial status should be prohibited in access to long-term care services and in the admittance to and discharge from Medicaid and Medicare certified facilities.

Households that care for their family members should not be penalized through the reduction of already limited income and services and should not be denied available related services or reimbursements.

Health concerns stress improvements in health research and long-term care

Most of Minnesota's recommendations concerning how to resolve the health problems of the elderly focus on issues concerning health research and long-term care. For example:

Study the causes, effects, and treatments of dimentia occurring across the lifespan using biomedical, psychological, and other appropriate techniques.

Educate researchers concerning ways to present their work in formats which non-researchers can understand and use.

Case management for residents and clients of long term care should reflect the needs of the whole person.

Social recommendations suggest the elderly should maintain close community ties

Although Minnesota's recommendations for improving the social aspect of the elderly's lives are concerned with specific issues like housing and transportation, most of the recommendations suggest services be closely integrated with other community services and promote independence in the elderly. For example:

Housing for the elderly should be located in proximity to community resources and be integrated with the larger service delivery system of the community.

Public and private agencies should make concrete efforts to involve older volunteers in community planning and decision-making, as well as in action programs.

Community information and referral services should be comprehensive in approach and should dispense information about crime prevention, consumer fraud, employment, retirement options, and legal aid as well as health and social services.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE SHARED BY GOVERNMENT AND NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

Unlike most of the Nation which suggest the Federal government as the primary source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly, Minnesota believes the responsibility for improvements should be shared by both government and non-government sources. See table below.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Minnesota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	24	20	1,215	30
State and local government	7	6	439	11
Federal and State government	22	18	666	16
Nongovernment	43	35	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	27	21	600	15
Total	123	100	4,028	100

An interesting point to note as shown in the following table is that Minnesota clearly specifies that improvements relating to health and social aspects should be the responsibility of non-government sources (77 percent and 43 percent, respectively) while economic improvements for the elderly should be the Federal government's responsibility.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	1	4	18	33	5	12
State and local government	0	0	2	4	5	12
Federal and State government	2	8	13	24	7	17
Nongovernment	20	77	5	9	18	43
Other	3	11	17	30	7	16
Total	26	100	55	100	42	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY PROVIDED THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS AND BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Minnesota believes most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly can be resolved through existing organizations and budget considerations. As shown in the following table, Minnesota suggests that 37 percent of its recommendations can be carried out through existing organizations, and 29 percent through budget considerations.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Minnesota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	2	2	577	14
Organizations	46	37	1,651	41
Budget	36	29	767	19
Monitor	7	6	218	5
Research and development	23	19	297	8
Regulator	8	7	213	5
Combinations of the above	1	0	305	8
Total	123	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Minnesota believes through increased funding (money) as well as through changing the current process, (42 and 42 percent, respectively) the health, economic, and social conditions can be improved by existing organizations, and budget considerations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Minnesota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	4	3	313	8
Money	52	42	1,449	36
Material	3	2	120	3
Process	51	42	1,188	29
People and money	12	10	690	17
Combinations of the above	1	1	268	7
Total	123	100	4,028	100

MISSISSIPPI'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL NATIONAL CONCERNS

We compared Mississippi's recommendations with those of the Nation and found them to be similar. The following table shows that Mississippi considers both social and economic issues to be equally important to the elderly (43 and 42 percent, respectively).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Mississippi		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	13	15	639	16
Economic	35	42	2,043	51
Social	36	43	1,346	33
Total	84	100	4,028	100

Improvement economic condition by reducing costs

Mississippi, along with the Nation, recommends reducing service costs as the principle method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly (40 and 37 percent, respectively) as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN MISSISSIPPI

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Mississippi		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	14	40	764	37
Taxes	3	9	113	6
Reduce durable costs	5	14	209	10
Reduce non-durable costs	2	6	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	5	14	295	15
Nonemployment	6	17	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	35	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced included:

Medicare and Medicaid guidelines be changed to cover more in-home maintenance and preventive care.

Legislation be enacted which would allow older adults dental care and flouridation under Medicare and Medicaid.

The availability of day care centers for the elderaly be increased.

Free or low cost legal services be provided for those older adults unable to pay the costs for such services.

Social concerns can be improved through a combination of programs.

The issues surrounding the social aspects of Mississippi's elderly focus on a combination of programs (42 percent of the social recommendations). for example, Mississippi recommends:

The public be educated about the resource potential of nursing home residents and the positive impact it can have on the community.

Efforts be made to develop an age integrated society by Mississippi citizens, elected public officials, program administrators, and the clergy.

Develop education and training programs relating to the elderly by Educational Television.

Encourage pre-retirement counseling through industries and community groups.

Improve health concerns through research and education

Mississippi believes health problems of the elderly can best be improved through research and education as shown by the following recommendations:

Research efforts directed toward rehabilitation and disability assessment of older adults should be expanded.

Older people be educated and motivated to take care of their own state of health.

Health professionals help to implement programs to educate older adults in proper use of drugs and alcohol.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

Mississippi believes the source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly is non-government sources. Forty-four percent of Mississippi's recommendations shown non-government as the primary source of improvement as opposed to 28 percent nationwide.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Mississippi		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	14	17	1,215	30
State and local government	17	20	439	11
Federal and State government	12	14	666	16
Nongovernment	37	44	1,108	28
Other combinations	4	5	600	15
Total	84	100	4,028	100

A breakout of each dimension in the following table shows that Mississippi believes the Federal government should be the primary source for improving the economic issues of the elderly (34 percent) while non-government sources should help the elderly resolve their health and social problems (84 and 50 percent, respectively).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	1	8	12	34	1	3
State and local government	1	8	8	23	8	22
Federal and State government	0	0	6	17	6	17
Nongovernment	11	84	8	23	18	50
Other combinations	0	0	1	3	3	8
Total	13	100	35	100	36	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Mississippi, like the Nation, believes existing organizations can provide the help necessary to resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (58 and 41 percent, respectively) as shown in the following table.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Mississippi		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	14	17	577	14
Organizations	49	58	1,651	41
Budget	16	19	767	19
Monitor	2	2	218	5
Research and development	0	0	297	8
Regulator	3	4	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	84	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Sixty-two percent of Mississippi's recommendations and 29 percent of the Nations suggest processing as the resource needed for providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Mississippi		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	1	1	313	8
Money	25	30	1,449	36
Material	0	0	120	3
Process	52	62	1,188	29
People and money	6	7	690	17
Combinations of the above	0	0	268	7
Total	84	100	4,028	100

MISSOURI'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION

We compared the recommendations made by Missouri regarding the elderly with those of the Nation and found them to be similar. The following table shows both Missouri and the Nation believe economic issues are the primary concern of the elderly with social issues being second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimensions	Missouri		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	7	21	639	16
Economic	18	55	2,043	51
Social	8	24	1,346	33
Total	33	100	4,028	100

Economic situation can be improved by increasing/maintaining income

The Nation recommends that the elderly's economic condition can be improved by reducing costs. However, Missouri believes their elderly's economic problems can best be resolved by increasing and/or maintaining income.

A further analysis of the economic dimension reveals that Missouri believes the best way to increase and/or maintain income for the elderly in Missouri is through non-employment programs like Social Security (50 percent of the recommendations).

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN MISSOURI

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Missouri		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	2	11	295	15
Nonemployment	9	50	492	24
Costs:				
Taxes	0	0	113	6
Reduce durable costs	0	0	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	0	0	106	5
Reduce service costs	7	39	764	37
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	18	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations concerning how the older person's economic plight could be improved through non-employment programs include:

The earnings of Social Security participants should not be restricted and income benefits should be maintained at no less than the present benefit level.

Interest income to persons 65 and older should be tax exempt.

A national policy on an adequate minimum income should be developed including Social Security and other governmental programs as well as private pensions and other private sources to meet the needs of the retired.

Social concerns can be improved through a combination of programs

The issues surrounding the social aspects of Missouri's elderly focus on a combination of programs as shown by the following recommendations:

Efforts should be made toward securing continued funding of research and the findings of such research should be widely distributed in understandable lay terms.

A comprehensive public education program should be developed and schools preparing health professionals should provide curriculum with specific education concerning the characteristics and needs of older adults.

The coalition of organizations serving older Americans should be encouraged by clearly defining responsibilities of each unit of government in relation to planning and service provisions.

Improve health concerns by providing more and better services

Missouri believes health problems of the elderly can best be improved by providing more and better services as shown by the following recommendations:

Day care services for the elderly should be developed and expanded and the concept and practice of intergenerational living and shared housing should be explored.

An adequately funded public and private health care system for the elderly should be established which promotes maximum functioning of the individual through a continuum of care concept characterized by the appropriate level of quality care at the proper time.

Nutrition opportunities both in congregate and in-home settings should be continued and/or expanded to areas where they are nonexistent.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Missouri, like the Nation, believes the source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly is the Federal government. Thirty-seven percent of Missouri's recommendations and 30 percent of the Nation's recommendations show the Federal government as the primary source for improvement. As shown in the following table, Missouri agrees with the Nation that emphasizes non-government as being second.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Missouri		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	12	37	1,215	30
Nongovernment	8	24	1,108	28
Federal and State government	7	21	666	16
State and local goverment	1	3	439	11
Combinations of the above	5	15	600	15
Total	33	100	4,028	100

Of interest is the following table which shows that Missouri specifies that improvements relating to health issues should be the responsibility of non-government sources, social issues the responsibility of Federal and state governments while economic improvements should be the Federal government's responsibility.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendation by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	0	0	11	61	1	12
State and local government	0	0	0	0	1	12
Federal and State government	0	0	4	22	3	38
Nongoverment	5	71	1	6	2	25
Other	2	29	2	11	1	13
Total	7	100	18	100	8	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS AND MORE FUNDS

Missouri believes that existing organizations and more funds can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (81 percent of their recommendations). This belief is shared by the Nation as the following table shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations					
	Missouri			Nation		
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
Legislator	1	3		577	14	
Organizations	13	39	81	1,651	41	60
Budget	14	42		767	19	
Monitor	0	0		218	5	
Research and development	3	10		297	8	
Regulator	2	6		213	5	
Combinations of the above	0	0		305	8	
Total	33	100		4,028	100	

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Missouri believes through increased funding (money) and processing the health, economic, and social conditions can be improved, a view shared by the Nation 85 and 65 percent respectively, as the following table shows.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Missouri			Nation		
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
People	1	3		313	8	
Money	16	49	85	1,449	36	68
Material	0	0		120	3	
Process	12	36		1,188	29	
People and Money	4	12		690	17	
Combinations of the above	0	0		268	7	
Total	33	100		4,028	100	

MONTANA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION

We compared Montana's recommendations with those of the Nation and found Montana's issues regarding the elderly similar to those of the Nation. The following table shows economic issues to be the primary concern of the elderly in Montana (58 percent) and throughout the Nation (51 percent) with social issues being second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimensions	Montana		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	5	10	639	16
Economic	29	58	2,043	51
Social	16	32	1,346	33
Total	50	100	4,028	100

Economic issues can be improved by reducing costs

Montana, along with the Nation, recommends reducing costs as the best way to improve the economic condition of the elderly. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 31 percent of Montana's recommendations suggest reducing service costs as the primary method to relieve the elderly's financial burden. This suggestion is consistent with the Nation (37 percent), as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN MONTANA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Montana		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	9	31	764	37
Taxes	1	4	113	6
Reduce durable costs	1	3	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	4	14	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	3	10	295	15
Nonemployment	7	24	492	24
Combinations of the above	4	14	64	3
Total	29	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations for improving the elderly's economic condition by reducing service costs include:

Allocate financial resources for in-home services more equitably in rural areas.

Increase federal and state funding by direct subsidies to rural elderly programs inadequately served by public transportation.

Increase funding for transportation programs.

Improve social concerns by fostering independence through better in-home and transportation services

Montana believes the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by fostering the independence of the elderly through better in-home and transportation services. In addition, Montana suggests special considerations to meet the social needs of Native American elderly. Specific examples of these recommendations include:

Expand awareness of in-home services by increasing education, outreach, and local group and individual efforts through public media, community group and person-to-person contacts.

Establish a network transportation system which includes rail and air service to adequately meet the needs of senior citizens in town and within the state.

Special considerations must be made for Native American populations concerning problems of isolation and abuse of its elderly.

Improve health concerns by providing more comprehensive health care

Montana recommends providing more comprehensive coverage and services to improve the health problems of the elderly. Specific recommendations include:

Establish a national health insurance program.

Establish quality health care clinics utilizing physician assistants and nursing personnel, to be managed under local control and to focus on preventive health education with adequate federal and state funding.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Montana, like the Nation, believes the source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly is the Federal government. Forty percent of Montana's recommendations and 30 percent of the Nation's recommendations show the Federal government as the primary source for improvement.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Montana		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	20	40	1,215	30
Nongovernment	18	36	1,108	28
Federal and State government	6	12	666	16
State and local government	3	6	439	11
Combinations of the above	3	6	600	15
Total	50	100	4,028	100

An interesting point to note, as shown in the following table is that Montana specifies that improvements relating to health and social aspects should be the responsibility of non-government sources (60 and 75 percent respectively) while economic improvements for the elderly should be the Federal government's responsibility (62 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	0	0	18	62	2	13
State and local government	1	20	1	4	1	6
Federal and State government	1	20	4	14	1	6
Nongovernment	3	60	3	10	12	75
Other	0	0	3	10	0	0
Total	5	100	29	100	16	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Montana believes budget considerations can resolve most health, economic and social issues affecting the elderly (42 percent of their recommendations). This belief is different than that held by the Nation. As shown in the following table, the Nation believes these elderly issues can be resolved through existing organizations (41 percent of the recommendations).

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Montana		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	9	18	577	14
Organizations	15	30	1,651	41
Budget	21	42	767	19
Monitor	2	4	218	5
Research and development	3	6	297	8
Regulator	0	0	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	50	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECOMOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Montana believes through increased funding (money) the health, economic, and social conditions can be improved by providers, a view shared by the Nation, 46 and 36 percent respectively, as shown in the following table

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Montana		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	2	4	313	8
Money	23	46	1,449	36
Material	2	4	120	3
Process	16	32	1,188	29
People and money	1	2	690	17
Combinations of the above	6	12	768	7
Total	50	100	4,028	100

NEBRASKA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE NATIONWIDE

Nebraska's issues concerning the elderly parallel those nationwide. The following table shows both Nebraska and the Nation believe economic issues (70 and 51 percent, respectively) to be the primary concern of the elderly with social concerns second (24 and 33 percent, respectively).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Nebraska		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	3	6	639	16
Economic	38	70	2,043	51
Social	13	24	1,346	33
Total	54	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

Nebraska believes the economic condition of the elderly can be improved by reducing costs. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 55 percent of Nebraska's recommendations propose reducing service costs to relieve the financial burden on the elderly, a recommendation also made nationwide (37 percent), as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN NEBRASKA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Nebraska		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	21	55	764	37
Taxes	0	0	113	6
Reduce durable costs	1	3	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	0	0	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	5	13	295	15
Nonemployment	11	29	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	38	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

Funding sources should be continued for senior transportation systems and increased whenever possible.

Mobile medical units could handily serve the medical needs of isolated rural elderly.

Redirect more of the federal dollars for health care costs toward programs designed to prevent institutionalization.

More programs need to be targeted to the impaired elderly to help them reduce their dependence on others and to reduce the possibility of expensive institutionalization.

Social concerns can be improved through a combination of programs

Nebraska believes the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs as shown by the following recommendations:

Media campaigns should be encouraged to change the national image of growing older.

The advocacy role of seniors for their own needs must be recognized and encouraged, and their input can guide the professional gerontologists in developing and implementing programs and services for seniors.

Utilize crime prevention specialists as consultants to elderly housing planners so that more secure housing arrangments can be built.

Expand job training and counseling for older workers.

Promote public awareness of the potential worth and capabilities of older, productive employeers.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Thirty-three percent of Nebraska's recommendations suggest improving all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly primarily through the Federal government, a recommendation also made nationally, (30 percent). Both Nebraska and the Nation emphasize non-government sources as second.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Nebraska		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	18	33	1,215	30
State and local government	6	11	439	11
Federal and State government	8	15	666	16
Nongovernment	16	30	1,108	28
Other	6	11	600	15
Total	54	100	4,028	100

Of interest is the following table which shows that Nebraska specifies that improvements relating to health issues should be the responsibility of Federal, state and local governments, and non-government sources, social issues the responsibility of non-government sources while economic improvements should be the Federal government's responsibility.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	1	33.3	16	42	1	8
State and local government	1	33.3	3	8	2	15
Federal and State government	0	0	6	16	2	15
Nongovernment	1	33.3	9	24	6	47
Other	0	0	4	10	2	15
Total	3	100	38	100	13	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Nebraska believes that existing organizations can provide the assistancd needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems (61 percent of their recommendations). This belief is shared by the Nation (41 percent) as the following table shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Nebraska		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	3	6	577	14
Organizations	33	61	1,651	41
Budget	13	24	767	19
Monitor	0	0	218	5
Research and development	0	0	297	8
Regulator	5	9	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	54	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Sixty-seven percent of Nebraska's recommendations suggest increased funding (money) as the primary resource needed to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, a recommendation also made by the Nation (36 percent).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Nebraska		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	1	2	313	8
Money	36	67	1,449	36
Process	5	9	1,188	29
Material	1	2	120	3
People and money	7	13	690	17

RECOMMENDATIONS—Continued

Resources	Nebraska		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Combinations of the above	4	7	268	7
Total	54	100	4,028	100

NEVADA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION

We compared Nevada's recommendations with those of the Nation and found Nevada's issues regarding the elderly similar to those nationwide. The following table shows Nevada and the Nation believe economic issues to be the primary concern of the elderly with social issues being second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Nevada		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	2	5	639	16
Economic	32	78	2,043	51
Social	7	17	1,346	33
Total	41	100	4,028	100

Economic situation can be improved by reducing costs

Nevada along with the Nation, recommends that the elderly's economic condition can be improved by reducing costs. An analysis of the economic dimension shows that 47 percent of Nevada's recommendations suggest reducing service costs as the primary method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly. This recommendation was also made by the Nation (37 percent) as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN NEVADA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Nevada		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	15	47	764	37
Taxes	5	16	113	6
Reduce durable costs	3	9	209	10
Reduct nondurable costs	0	0	106	5
Increase/Maintain Income:				
Employment	1	3	295	15
Nonemployment	8	25	492	24
Combinations or the above	0	0	64	3
Total	32	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations how the elderly's economic condition can be improved by reducing service costs include:

Cost of living increases should not affect eligibility requirements for the Food Stamp program or other social programs.

A more realistic income criteria for Title XX transportation recipients should be used to reimburse transportation providers for the service.

Intergrated workable public transportation systems should be established in rural areas to enable older workers to seek and accept work.

Social concerns can be improved through education

The issues surrounding the social aspects of Nevada's elderly focus on education programs for the elderly and the public and private sectors as shown by the following recommendations:

Older Americans have available to them educational and informational programs.

A massive public relations and awareness campaign be launched to educate both the public and private employers of benefits their businesses would receive by hiring the elderly.

State employment security offices set up programs aimed strictly at the elderly to provide necessary guidance and counseling for older persons seeking employment.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Fifty-four percent of Nevada's recommendations show the source of improvement on all dimensions for issues affecting the elderly is the Federal government, a conclusion reached by the Nation (30 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Nevada		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	22	54	1,215	30
Nongovernment	2	5	1,108	28
Federal and State government	9	22	666	16
State and local government	7	17	439	11
Combinations of the above	1	2	600	15
Total	41	100	4,028	100

As shown in the table below, Nevada specifies that improvements relating to economic and social issues should be the responsibility of the Federal government while the responsibility for health improvements is shared by Federal, state and local governments.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	1	50	18	56	3	43
State and local government	1	50	5	16	1	14
Federal and State government	0	0	7	22	2	29
Nongovernment	0	0	1	3	1	14
Other	0	0	1	3	0	0
Total	2	100	32	100	7	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH MORE FUNDS AND EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Nevada believes that more funds and existing organizations can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (75 percent of their recommendations). Sixty percent of the Nation's recommendations support this belief.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations					
	Nevada			Nation		
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
Legislator	6	15		577	14	
Organizations	12	29	75	1,651	41	60
Budget	19	46		767	19	
Monitor	3	7		218	5	
Research and development	0	0		297	8	
Regulations	1	3		213	5	
Combinations of the above	0	0		305	8	
Total	41	100		4,028	100	

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Sixty-eight percent of Nevada's recommendations suggest that through increased funding (money) the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly can be improved, a view shared by the Nation (36 percent).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Nevada		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	1	2	313	8
Money	28	68	1,449	36
Material	3	7	120	3
Process	8	20	1,188	29
People and money	1	3	690	17

RECOMMENDATIONS—Continued

Resources	Nevada		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Combinations of the above	0	0	268	7
Total	41	100	4,028	100

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COMPARISON OF NEW HAMPSHIRE'S ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THOSE NATIONWIDE

Contrary to the views of the Nation, New Hampshire's recommendations suggest social issues to be the primary concern of their elderly with economic issues second in importance. Over 50 percent of their recommendations focus on the social dimension.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimensions	New Hampshire		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	5	11	639	16
Economic	17	36	2,043	51
Social	25	53	1,346	33
Total	47	100	4,028	100

Economic conditions improved by reducing costs

New Hampshire believes the economic condition of the elderly can be improved by reducing costs, a belief shared nationwide, as shown in the following table. Thirty-five percent of New Hampshire's recommendations in the economic dimension propose reducing service costs as a method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly, a recommendaiton also made by the Nation (37 percent).

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	New Hampshire		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	6	35	764	37
Taxes	2	12	113	6
Reduce durable costs	2	12	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	2	12	106	5
Increase/Maintain income				
Employment	3	17	295	15
Nonemployment	2	12	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	17	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

Develop cost effective and reliable Rural Transportation systems as a major national priority.

Low income elderly shall not be deprived of the full benefits of the law.

The Congress should reauthorize the Older Americans Act including the priority for legal services.

Improve social concerns through a combination of programs

New Hampshire believe the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs (44 percent of their social recommendations). Specific recommendations include:

The media should be provided with factual information in order to avoid constant falsification of the aging process.

Religious institutions should be encouraged to promote community recreation programs to provide for spiritual needs and necessary comforting experiences.

All institutions especially public should work to maintain the elderly's independence and integrity.

All employers should be provide with incentives to offer pre-retirement education in conjunction with the education system.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVE THROUGH NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

Thirty-two percent of New Hampshire's recommendations suggest improving all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly through non-government sources. The Federal government was second in importance.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	New Hampshire		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	12	26	1,215	30
State and local government	4	8	439	11
Federal and State government	6	13	666	16
Nongovernment	15	32	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	10	21	600	15
Total	47	100	4,028	100

An interesting point to note, as shown in the following table, is that New Hampshire specifies that improvements relating to health issues should be the responsibility of a combination of sources (60 percent), economic issues the responsibility of the Federal government (35 percent) while social issues are the responsibility of non-government sources (48 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	1	20	6	35	5	20
State and local government	1	20	0	0	3	12
Federal and State government	0	0	5	29	1	4
Nongovernment	0	0	3	18	12	48
Other	3	60	3	18	4	16
Total	5	100	17	100	25	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

New Hampshire's recommendations suggest that existing organizations can provide the assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems (36 percent of their recommendations). This recommendation was also made nationwide (41 percent) as shown in the following table.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	New Hampshire		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	13	28	577	14
Organizations	17	36	1,651	41
Budget	2	4	767	19
Monitor	1	2	218	5
Research and development	3	6	297	8
Regulator	4	9	213	5
Combinations of the above	7	15	305	8
Total	47	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Contrary to the views of the Nation, New Hampshire believes more prople and money (70 percent) to be the resource most needed by providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	New Hampshire		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	6	13	313	8
Money	1	2	1,449	36
Process	0	0	1,188	29
Material	4	9	120	3
People and money	33	70	690	17

RECOMMENDATIONS—Continued

Resources	New Hampshire		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Combinations of the above	3	6	268	7
Total	47	100	4,028	100

NEW JERSEY'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION

New Jersey's issues regarding the elderly are similar to those throughout the Nation. The following table shows that both New Jersey and the Nation believe economic issues are the primary concern of the elderly (67 and 51 percent, respectively) with social issues being second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	New Jersey		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	2	8	639	16
Economic	16	67	2,043	51
Social	6	25	1,346	33
Total	24	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

New Jersey recommends that the economic condition of the elderly can be improved by reducing costs, a recommendation also made nationally. An analysis of the economic dimension shows that 25 percent of New Jersey's recommenations suggest reducing service costs to relieve the financial burden on the elderly. This was also the leading recommendation made nationwide as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN NEW JERSEY

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	New Jersey		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce Service costs	4	25	764	37
Taxes	2	13	113	6
Reduce durable costs	1	6	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	1	6	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	3	19	295	15
Nonemployment	4	25	492	24
Combinations of the above	1	6	64	3
Total	16	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations concerning how the economic plight of the elderly could be improved by reducing costs include:

Property tax and property maintenance credits and/or rebates should be available with some Federal support to older home owners or renters.

Federal program providing assistance with energy and weatherization costs should be expanded and more realistic.

Medicare/Medicaid coverage should be extended to include preventive health and mental health services such as dentistry, nutrition, podiatry, optometry, chiropractry, family counseling, etc.

Social concerns can be improved through education

A majority of the social aspects of New Jersey's elderly focus on educating the private sector on the rights and freedom of choices of the elderly. Some of the recommendations include:

Increase training in the aging process and its ramifications for professional and support staff in health care, social service, and government agencies.

Develop a program to upgrade the media image of the elderly by diminishing the use of negative stereotypes and emphasizing the elderly as consumers, contributing citizens, and family members.

Develop, on the Federal level, effective evaluation methods to measure the impact of social services and how to construct the most efficient mix of services to the individual.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

New Jersey, like the Nation, believes that the source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly is the Federal government. Forty-two percent of New Jersey's recommendatidons and 30 percent of the Nation's recommendations show the Federal government as the primary source for improvement. As shown in the following table, New Jersey emphasizes a combination of sources as second.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	New Jersey		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	10	42	1,215	30
Nongovernment	6	25	1,108	28
Federal and State government	1	4	666	16
State and local government	0	0	439	11
Combinations of the above	7	29	600	15
Total	24	100	4,028	100

By dimension, however, a difference exists by source in New Jersey. New Jersey specifies that improvements relating to health and economic issues should be the responsibility of both the Federal government and a combination of sources while social improvements should be the responsibility of the Federal government and non-government sources.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendation by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	1	50	6	38	3	50
State and local government	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal and State government	0	0	1	6	0	0
Nongovernment	0	0	3	18	3	50
Other combinations	1	50	6	38	0	0
Total	2	100	16	100	6	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS AND MORE FUNDS

New Jersey believes that existing organizations and more funds can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (54 percent of their recommendations). This belief is shared by the Nation (60 percent) as shown in the following table.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	New Jersey		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	2	9	577	14
Organizations	7	29	1,651	41
Budget	6	25	767	19
Monitor	0	0	218	5
Research and development	0	0	297	8
Regulator	1	4	213	5
Combinations of the above	8	33	305	8
Total	24	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

New Jersey believes processing and increased funding (money) are the resources most needed to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly (88 percent of their recommendations). This view was shared by the Nation (65 percent) as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	New Jersey		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	0	0	313	8
Money	6	25	1,449	36
Material	0	0	120	3
Process	15	63	1,188	29

RECOMMENDATIONS—Continued

Resources	New Jersey		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People and money	1	4	690	17
Combinations of the above	2	8	268	7
Total	24	100	4,028	100

NEW MEXICO'S ELDERLY CONCERNS ARE PRIMARILY ECONOMIC

We compared recommendatioins made by New Mexico with those of the Nation to determine what the differences might be. We found that New Mexico's recommendations regarding the elderly were different than the Nation's in two ways: (1) New Mexico emphasized economic concerns more than the rest of the Nation, and (2) New Mexico had fewer social concerns and more health concerns than the rest of the Nation. The following table shows that New Mexico and the Nation believe the primary concerns of the elderly are economic (67 and 51 percent, respectively). Although national statistics show that social issues are sound (33 percent of the recommendations), New Mexico had only seven recommendations (13 percent of its total recommendations) dealing with social issues. New Mexico's health concerns (20 percent) are similar to those of the Nation (16 percent).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	New Mexico		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	11	20	639	16
Economic	37	67	2,04[illegible]	51
Social	7	13	1,34[illegible]	33
Total	55	100	4,02[illegible]	100

Reducing costs can improve the economic condition of the elderly

Both New Mexico and the Nation believe the best way to improve the economic condition of the elderly is to reduce costs, primarily the cost of services. As the following table shows, recommendations to reduce service costs totaled over 30 percent for both New Mexico and the Nation.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN NEW MEXICO

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	New Mexico		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Taxes	1	3	113	6
Reduce durable costs	5	14	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	2	5	106	5
Reduce service costs	11	30	764	37

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN NEW MEXICO—Continued

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	New Mexico		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	6	16	295	15
Nonemployment	11	30	492	24
Combinations of the above	1	2	64	3
Total	37	100	2,043	100

Most of New Mexico's recommendations for reducing costs are concerned with reducing costs of long-term and in-home care. For example:

> The distribution of funds and programs (for long-term care) should be based on individual health care needs and the ability or inability of the target population to pay.
>
> Expanded in-home care policies should provide economic incentives for the elderly interested in providing these services as well as the necessary training opportunities.
>
> The development and support of day care centers for the elderly should receive high priority.
>
> Medicare and Medicaid should allow reimbursement for qualified day care services.

New Mexico stresses comprehensive health care

Most of the Nation's recommendations on how to resolve the health problems of the elderly focus on having professionals learn more about aging and how to prevent disabling illnesses. Although New Mexico expresses some of these same concerns, New Mexico stresses comprehensive health care which includes a holistic approach. For example:

> The Congress should shift the focus of health care programs to the development of a national preventive health maintenance and health education program for the elderly.
>
> National health care policies should require integration or coordination of like programs and services to facilitate single entry, and evaluation.
>
> Programs should be developed that focus on screening, health maintenance, training, nutrition, mental health, and physical fitness.

New Mexico's social concerns are directed at specific issues

Nationally, social recommendations are fairly general and are concerned with improving services through better program coordination. Although some of New Mexico's social issues were also concerned with improving services through better coordination, most of New Mexico's social concerns were more specific. For example:

> Sufficient funding should be appropriated especially to develop transportation systems which can provide services 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.

Communities should be assisted in establishing adequate facilities for serving the elderly through increased funding for construction, acquisition, alteration, and capital outlays.

More emphasis should be placed at the national level on developing and disseminating nutrition education materials.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

New Mexico, like the Nation, believes the source of improvement for all issues impacting on the elderly including those in the health, economic, and social dimensions is the Federal Government. As shown in the following table, New Mexico agrees with the Nation that the second source for improvement is nongovernment sources.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	New Mexico		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	30	55	1,215	30
State and local government	0	0	439	11
Federal and State government	5	9	666	16
Nongovernment	14	25	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	6	11	600	15
Total	55	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

New Mexico believes most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly can be resolved through existing organizations, a belief held by the Nation. As the table below shows, New Mexico suggests that 44 percent of its recommendations can be carried out through existing organizations, compared to 41 percent nationwide.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	New Mexico		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	1	2	577	14
Organizations	24	44	1,651	41
Budget	19	34	767	19
Monitor	2	4	218	5
Research and development	4	7	297	8
Regulator	5	9	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	55	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

New Mexico believes with more money the health, economic and social conditions of the elderly can be improved by existing organizations (69 percent of their recommendations), a view shared by the Nation (36 percent), as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	New Mexico		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	1	2	313	8
Money	38	69	1,449	36
Materials	1	2	120	3
Process	8	14	1,188	29
People and Money	6	11	690	17
Combinations of the above	1	2	268	7
Total	55	100	4,028	100

NEW YORK'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION

Most of New York's issues regarding the elderly are similar to those of the Nation. As the following table shows, a majority of New York's elderly concerns are economic (65 percent) compared to 51 percent nationwide, with social issues being second (33 percent).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	New York		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	2	2	639	16
Economic	61	65	2,043	51
Social	31	33	1,346	33
Total	94	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by increasing and/or maintaining income

The Nation recommended that the elderly's economic condition could be improved by reducing costs. However, New York recommended that economic problems be resolved through increasing and/or maintaining income as shown in the following table. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 44 percent of New York's recommendations suggest increasing and/or maintaining income through non-employment programs like social security.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN NEW YORK

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	New York		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	7	11	295	15
Nonemployment	27	44	492	24
Costs:				
Taxes	1	2	113	6
Reduce durable costs	3	5	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	4	7	106	5
Reduce service costs	18	30	764	37
Combinations of the above	1	1	64	3
Total	61	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations concerning how the elderly's economic plight could be improved through non-employment programs include:

As a national policy, the Federal government should guarantee to the elderly Americans a minimum income which is sufficient to maintain an adequate standard of living, now and in the future.

The Social Security system should be improved in order that it can serve as the major national instrument for achieving the goal of a guaranteed minimum income for all the elderly Americans.

The solvency of the Social Security Trust Funds should be guaranteed by the infusion of funds from the general revenues on a planned basis.

Improve social concerns through changes which encourage self-help and integration of the elderly into society

Many of New York's social recommendations suggest changes in society which would make the elderly more independent. Other social recommendations suggest better integration of the elderly into society. Specific examples include:

The elderly, regardless of personal resources and living environment, should be entitled to live as independently as possible, and in accordance with their own choices.

There should be available to all elderly as needed, a continuum of physical and mental health, social and environmental services aimed at promoting health, preventing illness and maintaining those social roles and functions which provide independent living and preserve dignity.

Integrate the aged into society and provide access for the elderly of all cultural heritages to all choices, benefits, options, and resources that are available to all other sectors of society.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH MULTIPLE SOURCES

New York's recommendations, unlike the Nation's, suggest a combination of sources as the primary method of improving issues impacting on the elderly (60 percent of their recommendations) as opposed to 28 percent nationally. Thirty percent of New York's recommendations emphasize the Federal government as second.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	New York		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	28	30	1,215	30
State and local government	2	2	439	11
Federal and State government	5	5	666	16
Nongovernment	3	3	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	56	60	600	15
Total	94	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH A COMBINATION OF PROVIDERS

New York believes a combination of providers can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (50 percent of their recommendations) with existing organizations second (26 percent) as shown in the following table.

PROVIDERS OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	New York		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	17	18	577	14
Organizations	24	26	1,651	41
Budget	4	4	767	19
Monitor	0	0	218	5
Research and development	2	2	297	8
Regulator	0	0	213	5
Combinations of the above	47	50	305	8
Total	94	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

New York believes processing is the primary resource necessary to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly (60 percent of their recommendations) as opposed to 29 percent nationwide, as the following table shows.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	New York		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	0	0	313	8
Money	4	4	1,449	36
Material	0	0	120	3
Process	56	60	1,188	29
People and money	5	5	690	17
Combinations of the above	29	31	268	7
Total	94	100	4,028	100

NORTH CAROLINA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS ARE PRIMARILY SOCIAL

We compared recommendations made by North Carolina with those of the Nation to determine what the differences might be. We found that North Carolina's recommendations regarding the elderly were different than the Nation's in one major aspect—North Carolina believes most of the elderly concerns are social; whereas, most of the Nation stresses economic concerns. Forty-nine percent of North Carolina's elderly concerns are social, versus 33 percent for the Nation, as the table below shows. And, 33 percent of North Carolina's elderly concerns are economic, versus 51 percent for the Nation.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	North Carolina		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	34	18	639	16
Economic	61	33	2,043	51
Social	90	49	1,346	33
Total	185	100	4,028	100

Economic condition can be improved through reduced service costs

Both North Carolina and the Nation believe the best way to improve the economic condition of the elderly is to reduce costs, primarily the cost of services. Recommendations to reduce service costs totaled over 36 percent for both North Carolina and the Nation, as the following table shows.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN NORTH CAROLINA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	North Carolina		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	23	38	764	37
Taxes	0	0	113	6
Reduce durable costs	2	3	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	1	2	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	13	21	295	15
Nonemployment	8	13	492	24
Combinations of the above	14	23	64	3
Total	61	100	2,043	100

Many of North Carolina's recommendations for reducing costs are concerned with reducing costs of services which would enable the elderly to remain in their own homes and receive affordable in-home care. For example:

Place more emphasis on and provide sound financial backing for services essential to continued home care.

Adopt a tax program which would facilitate the care of an older adult in a family situation.

Take action to provide direct monthly assistance to "significant others" providing care for the elderly.

Health concerns are similar to the Nation's

Most of the Nation's recommendations concerning how to resolve the health problems of the elderly focus on having professionals learn more about aging and how to prevent disabling illnesses. North Carolina also expresses many of these same concerns. In fact, nearly one-half of North Carolina's health concerns suggest some form of geriatric training for health care professionals. For example:

Continue education of health practitioners regarding technical and scientific advancements in geriatrics.

Encourage health care professionals and human service schools to review and revise their graduate and undergraduate curricula to incorporate needed content in gerontology and geriatrics.

Social recommendations include eliminating barriers and strengthening community assistance

Most of the Nation's social recommendations are concerned with improving services through better program coordination. Although some of North Carolina's social recommendations were also concerned with improving services through better coordination, most of North Carolina's social recommendations were more concerned with eliminating barriers which prevent the elderly from being independent and integrated within society. These barriers include poor transportation, lack of centralized facilities, age discrimination in educational and employment practices, and crimes against the elderly. In addition, many of North Carolina's recommendations suggested both religious and community organizations become more involved in improving the quality of life of the elderly. Examples of some of the recommendations include:

More vigorously enforce the Age Discrimination Act of 1975.

Organize county and statewide committees to develop workable, comprehensive, and accessible transportation for the elderly in both rural and urban areas.

Develop information and referral services within the religious organizations and community in order to provide guidance to all persons on their rights and how to obtain them.

Expand the community watch program in every neighborhood to include checking on the elderly by telephone or personal visit to reassure them that someone is concerned for their welfare.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED BY NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

Forty-three percent of North Carolina's recommendations suggest improving issues impacting on the elderly through non-government sources, as opposed to 28 percent nationwide.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	North Carolina		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	21	12	1,215	30
Nongovernment	79	43	1,108	28
Federal and State government	30	16	666	16
State and local goverment	25	13	439	11
Combinations of the above	30	16	600	15
Total	185	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

North Carolina's recommendations suggest that existing organizations can provide the assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems (49 percent of their recommendations).

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	North Carolina		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	11	6	577	14
Organizations	90	49	1,651	41
Budget	38	20	767	19
Monitor	11	6	218	5
Research and development	29	16	297	8
Regulator	6	3	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	185	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

North Carolina believes through increased funding (money) and process changes the health, economic, and social conditions can be

improved by existing organizations, a view shared by the Nation. Thirty-seven percent of North Carolina's recommendations and 29 percent of the Nation's recommendations suggest process changes. And, 28 percent of North Carolina's recommendations and 36 percent of the Nation's recommendations suggest increased funding (money).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	North Carolina		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	35	19	313	8
Money	52	28	1,449	36
Material	7	4	120	3
Process	68	37	1,188	29
People and money	5	3	690	17
Combinations of the above	18	9	268	7
Total	185	100	4,028	100

NORTH DAKOTA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL NATIONAL CONCERNS

A comparison of North Dakota's issues regarding the elderly with those of the Nation showed them to be similar. For example, the elderly in North Dakota and the Nation are primarly concerned with economic issues (48 and 51 percent, respectively) with social issues second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	North Dakota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	16	17	639	16
Economic	46	48	2,043	51
Social	34	35	1,346	33
Total	96	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

North Dakota agrees with the Nation's recommendation that the economic condition of the elderly could be improved by reducing costs. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 48 percent of North Dakota's recommendations suggest reducing service costs as the principal method of relieving the elderly's financial burden, a recommendation also made by the Nation (37 percent), as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN NORTH DAKOTA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	North Dakota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	22	48	764	37
Taxes	2	4	113	6
Reduce durable costs	2	4	209	10
Reduct nondurable costs	0	0	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	10	22	295	15
Nonemployment	4	9	492	24
Combinations of the above	6	13	64	3
Total	46	100	2,043	100

Some recomendations made by North Dakota to reduce service costs include:

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A national health care insurance plan be developed which includes coverage for care related to feet, eyes, ears, and teeth.

More financial assistance be available to create support options in housing, i.e., rent, construction, maintenance.

funding be increased to provide more in-home services.

A planned approach from the community level be developed to include home maintenance services.

The Congress should act to provide increased health care coverage and home health care programs.

Social concerns can be improved through a combination of programs

North Dakota recommends focusing on a combination of programs to improve the social concerns of their elderly (38 percent of their recommendations). Specific recommendations include:

A community health care system should be developed and include education through the media.

Older people should have more imput into planning and decision affecting their housing.

Pre-retirement planning should be developed to assist in sound planning for both work and leisure.

Programming in senior centers should include development of support groups, self esteem, and communication skills.

Improvement health concerns by combining programs.

Sixty-three percent of North Dakota's recommendations suggest improving the health problems of their elderly though a combination of programs. for example, North Dakota recommends:

Mental health centers develop peer groups and self help programs for the elderly.

Legislative bodies on both the state and national levels place emphasis on home health care and in-home services.

The community level be developed to plan for health needs, or develop if no resources exist.

A community health care system be developed and include education for health professionals, other health care providers and on drugs and supervision of their use.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

Over 50 percent of North Dakota's recommendations suggest non-government as the primary source for improvement of all dimensions—health, economic, and social—for issues impacting on the elderly compared to 28 precent nationwide.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	North Dakota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	11	12	1,215	30
State and local government	16	17	439	11
Federal and State government	8	8	666	16
Nongovernment	51	53	1,108	28
Other combinations	10	10	600	15
Total	96	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

North Dakota and the Nation believe that existing organizations can provide the help needed to resolve most health, economic, and social issues impacting on the elderly (41 percent of their recommendations) as the following table shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	North Dakota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	11	11	577	14
Organizations	39	41	1,651	41
Budget	24	25	767	19
Monitor	0	0	218	5
Research and development	17	18	297	8
Regulator	4	4	213	5
Combinations of the above	1	1	305	8
Total	96	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Thirty-three percent of North Dakota's recommendations suggest increased funding (money) as the resource needed to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, a view also shared by the Nation (36 percent).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	North Dakota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	16	17	313	8
Money	32	33	1,449	36
Material	1	1	120	3
Process	29	30	1,188	29
People and money	17	18	690	17
Combinations of the above	1	1	268	7
Total	96	100	4,028	100

OHIO'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION'S CONCERNS

In order to determine what the profile of an individual State might be, we compared the recommendations made by Ohio with the Nation. We found that Ohio's issues regarding the elderly were similar to those of the Nation as a whole. The following table shows that both Ohio and the Nation believe the primary concerns of the elderly are economic issues. Forty-three percent or more of the total issues are economic for both Ohio and the Nation. Although national statistics show that social issues are the next primary concern of the elderly, (30 percent of the recommendations), Ohio's recommendations suggest that both social and health issues are about equally important but secondary to economic issues:

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Ohio		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	18	27	639	16
Economic	29	43	2,043	51
Social	20	30	1,346	33
Total	67	100	4,028	100

Economic condition can be improved through employment programs

Although most of the Nation recommends that the elderly's economic situation can be improved through reducing service costs, (37 percent of all economic recommendations) Ohio recommends that economic problems be resolved through increasing/maintaining income through employment and its benefits (including pensions, etc.).

As the following table shows, Ohio favors addressing the economic needs of the elderly primarily through increasing/maintaining their income through employment programs (35 percent of Ohio's economic recommendations).

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN OHIO

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Ohio		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	9	31	764	37
Taxes	2	7	113	6
Reduce durable costs	2	7	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	1	3	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	10	35	295	15
Nonemployment	5	17	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	29	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations concerning how the elderly's economic plight could be improved through employment include:

Social Security benefits equal the national average income.

All private pension plans be portable from one employer to another, and fully vested after 5 years of participation.

Employment discrimination against the elderly be opposed.

National and Ohio health concerns are similar

Most of the Nation's recommendations concerning how to resolve the heatlh problems of the elderly focus on having professionals learn more about aging and how to prevent or treat the prevalent disabling illnesses. Ohio also focuses on these concerns. Ohio recommends, for example:

Focus research on Alzheimer's disease and other chronic diseases encountered by the elderly.

Develop specialized programs and facilities such as for persons who are terminally ill, deaf and/or blind, or suffering from substance abuse.

Form a consortium to develop a comprehensive national research agenda in aging.

Social concerns can be improved through better program coordination

Many of the issues surrounding the social aspect of Ohio's elderly focus on improving services through better program coordination at both the federal and local level. Some of these recommendations include:

Study be conducted with a view toward the consolidation of similar programs for the elderly.

Similar allied health and social services be available through community and focal points.

Common regulations be developed for similar programs for the elderly found in different federal departments.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Ohio's recommendations, like most of the Nation, show that overall, the source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly is the Federal government. Thirty-three percent of Ohio's recommendations and 30 percent of the Nation's recommendations suggest the Federal government as the primary source for improvement.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Ohio		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	22	33	1,215	30
State and local government	8	12	439	11
Federal and State government	11	16	666	16
Nongovernment	20	30	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	6	9	600	15
Total	67	100	4,028	100

However, if we breakout the overall percentages for each dimension, we find that Ohio still suggests economic improvements be made by the Federal government (59 percent) but believes some of the responsibility for social improvements be shared by the state and local governments (30 percent for State and local; 25 percent for Federal government), while health problems should be resolved by non-government sources (61 percent) (See below table).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimensions					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	0	0	17	59	5	25
State and local government	2	11	0	0	6	30
Federal and State government	3	17	5	17	3	15
Nongovernment	11	61	6	21	3	15
Other	2	11	1	3	3	15
Total	18	100	29	100	20	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS AND BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

Ohio believes most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly can be resolved through existing organizations and budget consideration. As shown in the following table, Ohio suggests that 36 percent of its recommendations can be carried out

through existing organizations, and 31 percent through budget considerations.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Ohio		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	6	9	577	14
Organizer	24	36	1,651	41
Budget	21	31	767	19
Monitor	4	6	218	5
Research and development	8	12	297	8
Regulator	4	6	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	67	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Ohio believes through increased funding (money) the health, economic, and social conditions can be improved by existing organizations, a view shared by the Nation, 51 and 36 percent respectively, as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Ohio		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	0	0	313	8
Money	34	51	1,449	36
Materials	0	0	120	3
Process	32	48	1,188	29
People and money	0	0	690	17
Combinations of the above	1	1	268	7
Total	67	100	4,028	100

CONCERNS OF OKLAHOMA'S ELDERLY ARE SIMILAR TO THE NATION

We found Oklahoma's issues regarding the elderly to be similar to those of the Nation. The following table shows economic issues as the primary concern of the elderly both in Oklahoma (54 percent) and the nation (51 percent) with social issues next in importance.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Oklahoma		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	19	18	639	16
Economic	57	54	2,043	51
Social	29	28	1,346	33
Total	105	100	4,028	100

Improve economic situation by reducing costs

Oklahoma, along with the Nation, suggest reducing costs as the best method of improving the economic condition of the elderly. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 35 percent of Oklahoma's recommendations suggest reducing service costs as the principal method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly, a recommendation also made by the Nation (37 percent), as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN OKLAHOMA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Oklahoma		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	20	35	764	37
Taxes	4	7	113	6
Reduce durable costs	3	5	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	2	4	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	12	21	295	15
Nonemployment	14	25	492	24
Combinations of the above	2	3	64	3
Total	57	100	2,043	100

Some recommendations made by Oklahoma to reduce service costs include:

Expanding community-based services and nutritional programs.

Providing adequate outreach services especially to isolated elderly.

Increasing benefit programs for blind and handicapped elderly.

Providing a unified transportation network, including buses, drivers, maintenance, operating costs and provisions for the handicapped.

Improve social concerns by providing more opportunities or activities

Oklahoma believes social concerns can be improved by providing more opportunities and activities as shown by the following recommendations:

A conscious effort must be made to involve the common ordinary senior citizen in the planning stage of aging programs.

A program should exist in the community whose primary function should be to disseminate information on skills and availability of senior citizens for jobs and service.

Community, state, and Federal governments should continue their moral and financial support of age integration to all elderly programs including health, transportation, and social programming.

Community, state, and Federal government agencies at all levels should include older people on their boards and committees.

Improve health concerns through training and research

Oklahoma suggests improving the health problems of the elderly through training and research. For example, Oklahoma recommends:

Incorporating mental health education relating to aging into the training curriculum of health and social service professionals.

Developing and supporting education with emphasis on self-care available to the community.

Introducing a gerontological curriculum in the educational process for those people who will be involved with older people.

There must be increased appropriations for research into the care and medical needs of the older population.

A greater investment must be made in the production of knowledge about the aged and the aging processes.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Forty-nine percent of Oklahoma's recommendations show the Federal government as the primary source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly with non-government sources second in importance. As the following table shows, the Nation agrees with Oklahoma.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Oklahoma		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	51	49	1,215	30
Nongoverment	25	24	1,108	28
Federal and State government	23	22	666	16
State and local government	1	1	439	11
Combinations of the above	5	4	600	15
Total	105	100	4,028	100

As shown in the following table, Oklahoma specifiod that economic improvement for their elderly should be the Federal government's responsibility while the responsibility for improvements relating to health issues should be shared by non-goverment sources and Federal and state governments with non-goverment sources responsible for social issues.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimensions					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	4	21	43	75	4	14
State and local government	1	5	0	0	0	0
Federal and State government	7	37	10	18	6	20
Nongoverment	7	37	3	5	15	52
Other	0	0	1	2	4	14
Total	19	100	57	100	29	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Oklahoma believes existing organizations and more funds can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (67 percent of their recommendations). This belief is shared by the Nation (60 percent) as the table below shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations					
	Oklahoma			Nation		
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
Legislator	17	16		577	14	
Organizations	39	37	67	1,651	41	60
Budget	32	30		767	19	
Monitor	3	3		218	5	
Research and development	4	4		297	8	
Regulators	9	9		213	5	
Combinations of the above	1	1		305	8	
Total	105	100		4,028	100	

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Ninety-two percent of Oklahoma's recommendations suggest processing and increased funding (money) as the resources needed for existing organizations to improve the health, economic, or social condition of older people, a view shared by the Nation as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Oklahoma			Nation	
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent
People	3	3		313	8
Money	42	40	92	1,449	36
Process	55	52		1,188	29
Material	0	0		120	3
People and money	4	4		690	17
Combinations of the above	1	1		268	7
Total	105	100		4,028	100

OREGON'S ELDERLY CONCERNS ARE SIMILAR TO THE NATION

Oregon's issues concerning the elderly are similar to those of the Nation. As shown in the following table, both Oregon and the Nation believe economic issues to be the primary concern of the elderly (62 and 51 percent, respectively) with social issues being second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Oregon		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	22	17	639	16
Economic	81	62	2,043	51
Social	28	21	1,346	33
Total	131	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

Oregon's economic recommendations suggest improving the economic condition of the elderly by reducing costs, a recommendation also made by the Nation. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 46 percent of Oregon's recommendations and 37 percent of the Nation's recommendations propose reducing service costs as the best method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN NEW YORK

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Oregon		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	37	46	764	37
Taxes	5	6	113	6
Reduce durable costs	5	6	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	0	0	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	10	12	295	15
Nonemployment	23	29	492	24
Combinations of the above	1	1	64	3
Total	81	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

Give priority to delivery of services to the elderly.

Prioritize in-home alternate home funding.

Provide homemaker/housekeeper services, personal care, daycare, and respite care.

Make revisions to Medicare to proivide adequate coverage for outpatient care, home health care, dental and dentures, eye care and prescription lenses, ear care and hearing aides, preventive medical services, podiatry and prescription drugs services.

Increase funding for home repair and weatherization.

Social concerns can be improved through education

Oregon's recommendations focus on education programs to improve the social dimension of the elderly. For example:

Provide, through both formal and informal educational systems, knowledge about family living skills, family roles, aging process, and death/dying issues.

Provide equal educational opportunities for older Americans to include career education, cultural enrichment, gerontological emphasis, leisure and coping skills, and positive intergenerational contracts.

Encourage and educate the elderly to the use of research findings for self-help, planning, and programming.

Provide public education regarding long-term care facilities and their services.

Use the media to project positive aspects on aging.

Improve health concerns by providing better services and education

Oregon believes through education and by providing better services the health concerns of the elderly can be improved. Specific recommendations include:

Develop, maintain, and promote a comprehensive mental health program.

Develop a national health policy focusing on preventive care, health education and maintenance, and health screening.

Encourage health education to promote a broad range of areas of awareness regarding nutrition, drugs, and normal aging.

Review federal and state regulations with the intent of increasing flexibility in implementation to allow the needs of the individual to be met while maintaining or increasing the quality of services.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Forty-one percent of Oregon's recommendations show the Federal government as the primary source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly with non-government sources second. As shown in the following table, the Nation agrees with Oregon.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Oregon		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	54	41	1,215	30
Nongovernment	44	33	1,108	28
Federal and State government	18	14	666	16
State and local government	5	4	439	11
Combinations of the above	10	8	600	15
Total	131	100	4,028	100

As shown in the following table, Oregon specifies that improvements relating to health and social issues should be the responsibility of non-government sources 64 and 75 percent, respectively while economic improvements for the elderly should be the Federal government's responsibility, (62 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	2	9	50	62	2	7
State and local government	1	4	4	5	0	0
Federal and State government	5	23	10	12	3	11
Nongovernment	14	64	9	11	21	75
Other	0	0	8	10	2	7
Total	22	100	81	100	28	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Oregon believes existing organizations can best implement their recommendations and provide the assistance needed by the elderly (49 percent of their recommendations). This belief is shared by the Nation (41 percent) as the following table shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Oregon		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	8	6	577	14
Organizations	64	49	1,651	41
Budget	37	28	767	19
Monitor	7	5	218	5
Research and development	2	2	297	8
Regulators	13	10	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	131	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Eighty-four percent of Oregon's recommendations suggest processing and increased funding (money) as the resources needed for existing organizations to improve the health, economic, and social condition of the elderly, a view shared by the Nation as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Oregon		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	1	1	313	8
Money	49	37	1,449	36
Process	62	47	1,188	29
Material	1	1	120	3
People and money	15	12	690	17
Combinations of the above	3	2	268	7
Total	131	100	4,028	100

PENNSYLVANIA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION

We compared Pennsylvania's recommendations with those of the Nation and found them to be similar. The following table shows Pennsylvania and the Nation believe economic issues to be the primary concern of the elderly (66 and 51 percent, respectively) with social issues being second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Pennsylvania		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	11	14	639	16
Economic	51	66	2,043	51
Social	15	20	1,346	33
Total	77	100	4,028	100

Economic issues can be improved by reducing costs

Pennsylvania agrees with the Nation that the economic condition of the elderly can be improved by reducing costs. An analysis of the economic dimension shows that 55 percent of Pennsylvania's recommendations suggest reducing service costs as the primary method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly, a recommendation also made nationwide (37 percent).

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN PENNSYLVANIA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Pennsylvania		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	28	55	764	37
Taxes	1	2	113	6
Reduce durable costs	10	19	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	0	0	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	4	8	295	15
Nonemployment	8	16	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	51	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

Each community should provide potential consumers with an assessment and evaluation to determine appropriate services.

A comprehensive service package meeting health, service, and functional needs should be established.

A continuum of supportive in-home services should be financed by public or private funding to meet the established needs of persons 60 or over.

Federal Government should adopt a policy of maintaining and/or increasing levels of transportation services for the elderly.

Social concerns can be improved through education

Pennsylvania recommends that educational programs be initiated for the public and private sectors to change the attitudes and feelings toward the elderly and their role in society. For example:

Initiate educational programs to promote the breakdown by stereotypes, enhance media responsibilities, recognize the value of the elderly as a human resource, and increase aging awareness through a combination of experience in lifelong learning, and role counseling.

Promote the role of the aging as self-reliant and independent persons who will serve as resources in society.

Include the elderly on each major national and State board or policy-making body affecting aging services and also provide the elderly with the opportunity to participate on community boards in order that their interest or expertise may be utilized.

Improve health concerns through training and research

Pennsylvania believes health problems of the elderly can be improved through training and research. For example:

Training and education should be provided for volunteers, staff participants, and others involved in senior center programming.

Appropriate curriculum should be required for individual serving in the continuum of care.

Education programs should be offered which include an understanding of the life cycle, with its potentials and problems and these programs be directed to providers of service including families, the helping professions, and the agency themselves.

Advocacy effort should be made toward the development of a team of social gerontologists and directors of agencies serving the elderly to conduct research which will examine the changing role of the elderly in the areas of human values, basic needs, educational opportunities, self-reliance, and decision-making.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS

Pennsylvania's recommendations (34 percent) show the primary source of improvement for issues affecting the elderly is Federal and state governments, as opposed to 16 percent nationwide. As shown in the following tabie, Pennsylvania emphasizes nongovern-

ment sources to be second in improving the well being of their elderly.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Pennsylvania		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal and State government	26	34	666	16
Nongovernment	21	27	1,108	28
Federal Government	15	20	1,215	30
State and local government	7	9	439	11
Combinations of the above	8	10	600	15
Total	77	100	4,028	100

An interesting point to note as shown in the following table is that Pennsylvania specifies that improvements relating to health and social issues should be the responsibility of non-government sources while economic improvements for older people should be the responsibility of Federal and State governments.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	0	0	13	25	2	13
State and local government	0	0	4	8	3	20
Federal and State government	2	18	23	45	1	7
Nongovernment	8	73	7	14	6	40
Other	1	9	4	8	3	20
Total	11	100	51	100	15	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Sixty percent of Pennsylvania's recommendations and 41 percent of the Nation's indicate that existing organizations can resolve the health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly, as the following table shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Pennsylvania		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	3	4	577	14
Organizations	46	60	1,651	41
Budget	20	26	767	19
Monitor	4	5	218	5
Research and development	3	4	297	8
Regulator	1	1	213	5

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY—Continued

Provider	Recommendations			
	Pennsylvania		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	77	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Eighty-seven percent of Pennsylvania's recommendations and 65 percent of the Nation's suggest processing and increased funding as the resources needed to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Pennsylvania		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	1	1	313	8
Money	31	40	1,449	36
Material	1	1	120	3
Process	36	47	1,188	29
People and money	6	8	690	17
Combinations of the above	2	3	268	7
Total	77	100	4,028	100

COMPARISON OF RHODE ISLAND'S ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THOSE NATIONWIDE

Contrary to the views of the Nation, Rhode Island's recommendations suggest social issues to be the primary concern of their elderly with economic issues second in importance (48 and 43 percent, respectively).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Rhode Island		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	5	9	639	16
Economic	24	43	2,043	51
Social	27	48	1,346	33
Total	56	100	4,028	100

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IMPROVED BY REDUCING COSTS

Forty-two percent of Rhode Island's economic recommendations suggest improving the economic conditions of the elderly by reducing costs, a recommendation also made nationwide (58 percent). A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that Rhode Island's recommendations propose reducing taxes and service costs to relieve the financial burden on the elderly.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN RHODE ISLAND

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations					
	Rhode Island			Nation		
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
Costs:						
Reduce service costs	3	13	42	764	37	58
Taxes	3	13		113	6	
Reduce durable costs	2	8		209	10	
Reduct nondurable costs	2	8		106	5	
Increase/maintain income:						
Employment	4	16		295	15	
Nonemployment	5	21		492	24	
Combinations of the above	5	21		64	3	
Total	24	100		2,043	100	

Specific recommendations on how taxes and service costs can be reduced include:

No Federal income tax be levied on Social Security income.

All senior citizens living on a fixed income of $10,000 a year or less be exempt from Federal income tax.

Medicare coverage be extended to pay the cost of prescription drugs.

Moneys be channeled into payments of in-home services such as light house cleaning, shopping, meal preparation, laundry, and personal care assistance from medicare/medicaid and Title XX.

Improve social concerns through a combination of programs

Rhode Island believes the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs (86 percent of their social recommendations). Specific recommendations include:

Federal and state governments be committed to assisting the elderly to maintain their dignity and independence in the community.

Security guards, and burglar, fire and smoke alarms should be provided at senior citizens housing complexes.

The Rhode Island General Assembly enact legislation mandating the report of abuse, neglect, abandonment or exploitation of any person 60 years of age or older to the Director of the Department of Elderly Affairs.

The elderly should be recognized as an important segment of the consumer population.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Rhode Island, like the Nation, believes the source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly is the Federal government. Thirty-two percent of Rhode Island's recommendations and 30 percent of the Nation's recommendations show the Federal government as the primary source of improvement with non-government sources second.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE EDLER' 'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Rhode Island		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	18	32	1,215	30
Federal and State government	8	14	666	16
Nongoverment	13	23	1,108	28
State and local government	7	13	439	11
Combinations of the above	10	18	600	15
Total	56	100	4,028	100

An interesting point to note, as shown in the following table, is that Rhode Island specifies that improvements relating to health aspects should be Federal, State and local governments responsibility (40 percent), social issues and responsibility of nongovernment sources (44 percent) while economic issues are the responsibility of the Federal Government (75 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimensions					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	0	0	18	75	0	0
State and local government	2	40	2	8	3	11
Federal and State government	2	40	2	8	4	15
Nongovernment	0	0	1	4	12	44
Other	1	20	1	4	8	30
Total	5	100	24	99	27	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH LEGISLATION AND EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Rhode Island's recommendations suggest that a combination of legislation and existing organizations can provide the assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems (37 and 36 percent, respectively).

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Rhode Island		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	21	37	577	14
Organizations	20	36	1,651	41
Monitor	1	2	218	5
Budget	1	2	767	19
Research and development	3	5	297	8
Regulator	0	0	213	5
Combinations of the above	10	18	305	8
Total	56	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Rhode Island and the Nation believe increased funding (money) as the resource most likely to be affected in improving the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly (45 and 36 percent, respectively) as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Rhode Island		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	6	11	313	8
Money	25	45	1,449	36
Process	7	12	1,188	29
Material	2	3	120	3
People and money	11	20	696	17

RECOMMENDATIONS—Continued

Resources	Rhode Island		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Combinations of the above	5	9	268	7
Total	56	100	4,028	100

SOUTH CAROLINA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS ARE SIMILAR TO THE NATION

A comparison of South Carolina's issues regarding the elderly with those of the Nation disclosed them to be similar. For example, the elderly in South Carolina and the Nation are primarily concerned with economic issues, (50 and 51 percent respectively) with social issues being second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	South Carolina		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	14	16	639	16
Economic	44	50	2,043	51
Social	30	34	1,346	33
Total	88	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

South Carolina agrees with the Nation's recommendation that the economic condition of the elderly could be improved by reducing costs. To relieve the financial burden on the elderly, 34 percent of South Carolina's recommendations suggest reducing service costs. This recommendation was also made by the Nation (37 percent), as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	South Carolina		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	15	34	764	37
Taxes	2	5	113	6
Reduce durable costs	3	7	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	6	14	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	9	20	295	15
Nonemployment	4	9	492	24
Combinations of the above	5	11	64	3
Total	44	100	2,043	100

South Carolina's recommendations for reducing service costs focus on health, and in-home care costs and transportation. For example:

The Medicare and Medicaid programs should provide increased in-home services.

Third party reimbursement for homemaker services should be continued.

Adult day care services should be developed in existing facilities such as senior citizens centers, churches, extended care facilities, hospitals and community health centers.

More transportation services should be made available by encouraging volunteer transportation programs through development of mechanisms for coordination of such pools and reimbursement of costs for fuels, insurance, and the like.

Funding for transportation for the elderly from private and public resources should be encouraged.

Improve social concerns by providing more opportunities and changing attitudes toward the elderly

Providing more opportunities and changing the public's comception of the elderly can play a big part in improving social concerns. Specific recommendations made by South Carolina include:

All in-home services should be coordinated with information and referral centers and a comprehensive needs assessments service.

Area wide coordination of all transportation providers should be developed and services for rural and underserved areas emphasized.

Public education curricula and the mass media should be utilized to promote positive concepts of aging and enhancement of self concepts.

Age discrimination should be eliminated in all areas of life experiences.

Improve health concerns by providing more and better help

South Carolina believes health problems can be improved by providing more and better help to the elderly. For example:

Health and nutrition education programs, health screening and holistic health clinics should be increased.

A statewide community long term care project should be implemented for the purpose of defining service options and enlisting and expanding community based services.

Public policies should be developed that will affect how long term care facilities provide care for older people.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

Forty-four percent of South Carolina's recommendations suggest non-government sources to be the primary source for improvement on all dimensions—health, economic, and social—for issues impacting on the elderly as opposed to 28 percent nationwide.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	South Carolina		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	21	24	1,215	30
State and local government	3	3	439	11
Federal and State government	11	13	666	16
Nongovernment	39	44	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	14	16	600	15
Total	88	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Forty-one percent of South Carolina's recommendations suggest that health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly can be resolved through research and development by private and government sectors. This suggestion is not shared by the Nation.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	South Carolina		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	10	11	577	14
Organizations	17	19	1,651	41
Budget	13	15	757	19
Monitor	4	5	218	5
Research and development	36	41	297	8
Regulators	8	9	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	88	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS FOR THE ELDERLY

South Carolina believes increased funding (money) together with changing the current process as the resources most likely to be affected in improving the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, a view shared by the Nation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	South Carolina		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Money	28	32	1,449	36
Process	28	32	1,188	29
People	13	15	313	8
Material	4	5	120	3

RECOMMENDATIONS—Continued

Resources	South Carolina		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People and money	9	10	690	17
Combinations of the above	6	6	268	7
Total	88	100	4,028	100

SOUTH DAKOTA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION'S CONCERNS

We compared the recommendations made by South Dakota regarding the elderly with those of the Nation and found them to be similar. The following table shows the elderly in South Dakota and the Nation are primarily concerned with economic issues (59 and 51 percent, respectively) with social issues second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	South Dakota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	4	14	639	16
Economic	17	59	2,043	51
Social	8	27	1,346	33
Total	29	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

An analysis of the economic dimension shows that 35 percent of South Dakota's recommendations suggest reducing service costs as the principle method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly, a recommendation also made by the Nation (37 percent) as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	South Dakota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	6	35	764	37
Taxes	1	5	113	6
Reduce durable costs	2	12	209	10
Reduce non-durable costs	3	18	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	3	18	295	15
Nonemployment	2	12	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	17	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

Medicaid policies should cover preventive health care; hospice care; adult day care; homemaker service; physical therapy; mental health care; dental, hearing, and vision services; chiropractic services and prescription drugs.

Senior centers should provide services to the frail elderly.

A rural public transportation and ambulance service should be developed and expanded to provide equitable access to medical and other health-related services.

Improve social concerns by providing more opportunities

Fifty percent of South Dakota's social recommendations suggest providing more opportunities to improve the social concerns of the elderly. For example, South Dakota recommends:

Public and private agencies in education, employment, housing, church and recreation have a documented plan to include elderly in their programs.

Public agencies be required to have Affirmative Action plans to utilize the expertise of the elderly in teaching and sharing of knowledge in various crafts and cultural programs.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

Forty-five percent of South Dakota's recommendations suggest non-government as the primary source for improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly as opposed to 28 percent nationwide.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	South Dakota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	10	35	1,215	30
State and local government	3	10	439	11
Federal and State government	3	10	666	16
Nongovernment	13	45	1,108	28
Other combinations	0	0	600	15
Total	29	100	4,028	100

An analysis by dimension shows that South Dakota specifies improvements relating to health and social issues should be the responsibility of non-government sources while economic issues should be the Federal government's responsibility.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	0	0	8	47	2	25
State and local government	0	0	1	6	2	25
Federal and State government	0	0	2	12	1	12

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION—Continued

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Nongovernment	4	100	6	35	3	38
Other combinations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	4	100	17	100	8	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH MORE FUNDS

South Dakota believes more funds through budget considerations can resolve most health, economic, and social issues impacting on the elderly (45 percent of their recommendations) as opposed to 19 percent nationwide.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	South Dakota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	4	14	577	14
Organizations	10	35	1,651	41
Budget	13	45	757	19
Monitor	0	0	218	5
Research and development	1	3	297	8
Regulators	1	3	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	29	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Fifty-two percent of South Dakota's recommendations suggest increased funding (money) as the resource needed to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, a view also shared by the Nation (36 percent).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	South Dakota		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	3	11	313	8
Money	15	52	1,449	36
Material	1	3	120	3
Process	8	28	1,188	29
People and money	1	3	690	17
Combinations of the above	1	3	268	7
Total	29	100	4,028	100

TENNESSEE'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL THE NATION

We compared the recommendations made by Tennessee with those of the Nation and found them to be similar. The following table shows both Tennessee and the Nation believe economic issues are the primary concern of the elderly (75 and 51 percent, respectively).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimensions	Tennessee		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	3	15	639	16
Economic	15	75	2,043	51
Social	2	10	1,346	33
Total	20	100	4,028	100

Economic issues can be improved by reducing costs

Tennessee and the Nation recommend that the elderly's economic condition can be improved by reducing costs. An analysis of the economic dimension, as shown in the following table, discloses that 47 percent of Tennessee's recommendations suggest reducing service costs as the primary method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly, a recommendation also made nationwide (37 percent).

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN TENNESSEE

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Tennessee		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	7	47	764	37
Reduce durable costs	0	0	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	0	0	106	5
Taxes	4	27	113	6
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	2	13	295	15
Nonemployment	2	13	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	15	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how the elderly's economic plight could be improved through reducing service costs include:

The Congress should enact legislation to remove the deductible advance payment requirement for Medicare recipients.

The Congress should continue to authorize legal services under the Older Americans Act, and adequately fund such.

The Congress should continue funding for elderly transportation programs under Title III of the Older Americans Act and Title XX of the Social Security Act.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Tennessee's recommendations (90 percent) show the primary source of improvement on all dimensions—health, economic, and social—for issues affecting the elderly is the Federal government, a conclusion also reached by the Nation (30 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Tennessee		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	18	90	1,215	30
Nongovernment	1	5	1,108	28
Federal and State government	1	5	666	16
State and local government	0	0	439	11
Combinations of the above	0	0	600	15
Total	20	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH LEGISLATORS

Tennessee believes that legislation can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (75 percent of their recommendations), versus 14 percent for the Nation as the following table shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Tennessee		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	15	75	577	14
Organizations	0	0	1,651	41
Budget	1	5	767	19
Monitor	2	10	218	5
Research and development	0	0	297	8
Regulator	2	10	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	20	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Ninety-five percent of Tennessee's recommendations suggest increased funding (money) as the resource needed to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly. This view was shared by the Nation (36 percent) as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Tennessee		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	1	5	313	8
Money	19	95	1,449	36
Material	0	0	120	3
Process	0	0	1,188	29
People and money	0	0	690	17
Combinations of the above	0	0	268	7
Total	20	100	4,028	100

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COMPARISON OF TEXAS' ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THE NATION

Texas and the Nation believe that both economic and social concerns are important. The following table shows that 90 percent of Texas' recommendations relate to the social and economic dimensions compared to 84 percent for the Nation.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Texas			Nation		
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
Health	5	10		639	16	
Economic	23	44	90	2,043	51	84
Social	24	46		1,346	33	
Total	52	100		4,028	100	

Improve economic condition by increasing and/or maintaining income

The Nation recommended that the elderly's economic condition could be improved by reducing costs. However, Texas recommended that economic problems be resolved by increasing and/or maintaining income as shown in the following table. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 31 percent of Texas' recommendations suggest increasing and/or maintaining income through non-employee programs like social security.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN OF THE ELDERLY IN TEXAS

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Texas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Increase/maintain income				
Employment	6	26	295	15
Nonemployment	7	31	492	24
Costs				
Taxes	4	17	113	6
Reduce durable costs	2	9	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	0	0	106	5
Reduce service costs	4	17	764	37
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	23	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations concerning how the elderly's economic plight could be improved through nonemployment programs include:

Revise the Social Security system so that women who work inside or outside the home are insured equitable benefits.

Establish catastrophic insurance program to protect elderly from losing all resources due to accidents or major illness.

Provide savings incentives for everyone.

Improve health concerns through education

Texas believes the health problems of the elderly can be improved by focusing on improving the skills and knowledge of health care professionals regarding aging. Texas recommends, for example:

Provide counseling skills to service providers at community level.

Provide educational programs which address the aging process.

Improve social concerns through a combination of programs

Texas believes the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs that would help the elderly become more independent, influential, and self-reliant. For example, Texas recommends:

Establishing a continuum of housing options, social services, transportation, and health care services to maintain older people in their own environment.

Maintaining senior adults in productive roles.

Encouraging the elderly to participate politically in influencing the social system concerning the content and delivery of education and services.

Encouraging independence of the elderly to bring a favorable impression of the aging process.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

Texas' recommendations. unlike most of the Nation, show the primary source of improvement for issues impacting on the elderly including those in the health, economic, and social dimension is nongoverenment sources. Forty-four percent of Texas' recommendations suggest nongovernment as the primary source for improvement as opposed to 28 percent nationwide.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Texas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	13	25	1,215	30
State and local government	2	4	439	11
Federal and State government	5	10	666	16
Nongovernment	23	44	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	9	17	600	15
Total	52	100	4,028	100

If we break out the recommendations by dimension, however, we can see that Texas believes the primary responsibility for issues relating to the elderly's health and social concerns should rest with nongovernment sources. However, Texas believes the Federal Government is the best source for assisting the elderly with economic problems.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	0	0	11	48	2	8
State and local government	1	20	0	0	1	4
Federal and State government	0	0	2	9	3	13
Nongovernment	4	80	4	17	15	63
Other	0	0	6	26	3	12
Total	5	100	23	100	24	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Texas believes most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly can be resolved through existing organizations, a belief held by the Nation. As the table below shows, Texas suggests that 52 percent of its recommendations can be carried out through existing organizations, compared to 41 percent nationwide.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Texas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	7	14	577	14
Organizations	27	52	1,651	41
Budget	8	15	767	19
Monitor	1	2	218	5
Research and development	9	17	297	8
Regulator	0	0	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	52	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Fifty percent of Texas' recommendations suggest increased funding (money) as the necessary resource to enable the providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, a recommendation also made nationwide (36 percent) as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Texas		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	8	15	313	8
Money	26	50	1,449	36
Material	1	2	120	3
Process	14	27	1,188	29
People and money	1	2	690	17
Combinations of the above	2	4	268	7
Total	52	100	4,028	100

COMPARISON OF UTAH'S ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THOSE NATIONWIDE

Contrary to the views nationally, Utah believes their elderly are primarly concerned with social issues, followed by economic issues. Forty-five percent of Utah's recommendations focus on the social dimension as opposed to 33 percent nationally.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Utah		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	16	19	639	16
Economic	31	36	2,043	51
Social	38	45	1,346	33
Total	85	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

Fifty-eight percent of Utah's and the Nation's economic recommendations suggest improving the economic condition by reducing costs. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that Utah recommends reducing service costs (26 percent) as the principal method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly, as the following table shows.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN UTAH

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations					
	Utah			Nation		
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
Costs:						
Reduce service costs	8	26	58	764	37	58
Taxes	3	10		113	6	
Reduce durable costs	1	3		209	10	
Reduce non durable costs	6	19		106	5	
Increase/maintain income:						
Employment	4	13		295	15	
Non employment	9	29		492	24	
Combinations of the above	0	0		64	3	
Total	31	100		2,043	100	

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

Support and funding should be continued for reduced fare programs and for alternative transportation systems for the handicapped.

Additional funds should be made available for home repairs.

More government and private agency funding for housing units for the elderly should be secured.

Medicare should have a more realistic reimbursement scale for the costs of doctor visitation.

Improve social concerns by providing more opportunities and activities

Utah believes by providing more opportunities and activities the social concerns of the elderly can be improved. For example, Utah recommends:

Inform elderly persons of their rights to protection and proper care.

Housing representatives should determine the feasibility of using rent subsidies, tax incentives, local zoning ordinances, and other possibilities to encourage the development of "shared housing".

The educational system should be more responsive to the educational needs of the elderly (i.e. vocational, retraining, leisure, etc.).

There should be more research on meaningful ways to better utilize the time and talents of the "young-old".

Conduct more research on specific personality, social and cultural, and environmental factors.

Improve health concerns through research

Fifty percent of Utah's health recommendations suggest improving the health problems of the elderly through research, a suggestion also made by the Nation (33 percent). Specific recommendations include:

Researchers in the field of aging should coordinate their own efforts and those of professionals who work with the elderly in order to select projects that meet critical needs and avoid duplication.

Private organizations should be solicited and urged to contribute research monies to increase knowledge in the aging field.

Emphasis should be given to research directed toward understanding the aging process.

More research should be conducted on chemical substance abuse among the elderly.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

Fifty-eight percent of Utah's recommendations show non-government as the primary source of improvement on all dimensions—health, economic, and social—for issues impacting on the elderly with the Federal government second (35 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Utah		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	30	35	1,215	30
State and local government	0	0	439	11
Federal and State government	2	2	666	16
Nongovernment	49	58	1,108	28
Other combinations	4	5	600	15
Total	85	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Utah believes existing organizations can provide the assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social issues (46 percent of the recommendations). This belief is shared by the Nation as the following table shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Utah		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	10	12	577	14
Organizations	39	46	1,651	41
Budget	23	27	767	19
Monitor	0	0	218	5
Research and development	12	14	297	8
Regulator	1	1	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	85	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Sixty-two percent of Utah's recommendations suggest processing as the primary resource needed for providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly. The Nation believes increased funding (money) can resolve the elderly's problems in all dimensions (36 percent).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Utah		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	1	1	313	8
Money	31	37	1,449	36
Material	0	0	120	3
Process	53	62	1,188	29
People and money	0	0	690	17

RECOMMENDATIONS—Continued

Resources	Utah		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Combinations of the above	0	0	268	7
Total	85	100	4,028	100

COMPARISON OF VERMONT'S ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THOSE NATIONWIDE

Contrary to the views nationwide, Vermont's recommendations suggest social issues to be the primary concern of their elderly with economic issues second in importance. Over 50 percent of their recommendations focus on the social dimension as opposed to 33 percent nationally.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Vermont		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	13	18	639	16
Economic	17	24	2,043	51
Social	42	58	1,346	33
Total	72	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

Vermont, along with the Nation, recommends reducing costs as the principal method of improving the economic condition of the elderly. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 41 percent of Vermont's recommendations propose reducing service costs to relieve the financial burden on the elderly, a proposal also made nationwide (37 percent), as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN VERMONT

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Vermont		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	7	41	764	37
Taxes	3	18	113	6
Reduce durable costs	1	6	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	1	6	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	1	6	295	15
Nonemployment	4	23	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	17	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

All benefit programs for the elderly should include transportation service to those services.

Limit health care costs, beginning in 1982, to 7 percent of the gross national product.

Increase services for adult day care and respite care.

Expand third party reimbursement systems so that consumers can choose from a wider range of health services especially in-home care and mental health services.

Social concerns can be improved through a combination of programs

Vermont believes by focusing on a combination of programs the social concerns of the elderly can be improved (50 percent of their social recommendations). For example, Vermont recommends:

Institute a national program to assist people in planning retirement. This program should be a cooperative effort between employers, educational institutions and social service agencies to promote education about finances, legal affairs, health, living arrangements, and continued employment.

Encourage agencies providing services to the elderly to take the initiative in counteracting myths, misconceptions, and stereotypes now presented by mass media advertising.

Include elderly persons in all aspects of American life with special attention paid to their specific needs.

Include seniors in long range regional planning to assure awareness of aging needs and problems.

Improve health concerns through education and more help

Vermont believes through education and by providing more help the health concerns of the elderly can be improved. Specific recommendations include:

Schools of Medicine and Nursing should provide geriatric training for all health professionals and health-related workers.

Secondary schools and colleges should develop curricula that give elderly people opportunities to continue their education in health and disease prevention.

Health professionals should provide appropriate education, supervision, and guidance to volunteers that they may supplement health services in community facilities.

Provide facilities and services in housing projects and senior centers for short-term preventive care.

Increase services for adult day care and respite care.

Encourage holistic health care services.

Provide rehabilitative services for physical and mental needs of elderly people.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH A COMBINATION OF SOURCES

Thirty-two percent of Vermont's recommendations suggest improving all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly through a combination of sources. Non-government sources were second in importance.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Vermont		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	13	18	1,215	30
State and local government	8	11	439	11
Federal and State government	12	17	666	16
Nongovernment	16	22	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	23	32	600	15
Total	72	100	4,028	100

An interesting point to note, as shown in the following table, is that Vermont specifies that improvements relating to health issues should be the responsibility of non-government sources (70 percent), economic issues the responsibility of the Federal government (29 percent) while social issues are the responsibility of a combination of sources (43 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	2	15	5	29	6	14
State and local government	0	0	1	6	7	17
Federal and State government	0	0	4	24	8	19
Nongovernment	9	70	4	24	3	7
Other	2	15	3	17	18	43
Total	13	100	17	100	42	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Vermont's recommendations suggest that existing organizations can provide the assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems (47 percent of their recommendations). This recommendation was also made nationwide (41 percent) as shown in the following table.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Vermont		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	14	20	577	14
Organizations	34	47	1,661	41
Analyst	3	4	767	19
Monitor	1	2	218	5
Research and development	3	4	297	8
Regulator	6	8	213	5
Combinations of the above	11	15	305	8
Total	72	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Contrary to the views of the Nation, Vermont believes more people and money (28 percent) to be the resource most needed by providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resource	Vermont		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	13	18	313	8
Money	14	19	1,449	36
Process	6	8	1,188	29
Material	4	6	129	3
People and money	20	28	690	17
Combinations of the above	15	21	268	7
Total	72	100	4,028	100

COMPARISON OF VIRGINIA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS WITH THOSE NATIONWIDE

Virginia considers health and economic issues to be the primary concerns of the elderly (42 and 41 percent, respectively) as shown in the following table. Sixteen percent of the Nation's recommendations focus on health issues and 51 percent on economic issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Virginia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	25	42	639	16
Economic	24	41	2,043	51
Social	10	17	1,346	33
Total	59	100	4,028	100

Reducing costs can improve the economic condition of the elderly

Virginia, together with the Nation, recommends reducing costs as the best method of improving the economic condition of the elderly. Sixty-three percent of Virginia's recommendations in the economic dimension propose reducing service costs to relieve the financial burden on the elderly, a recommendation also made nationwide (37 percent).

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON VIRGINIA'S ELDERLY

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Virginia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	15	63	764	37
Taxes	1	4	113	6
Reduce durable costs	4	17	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	0	0	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	1	4	295	15
Nonemployment	2	8	492	24
Combinations of the above	1	4	64	3
Total	24	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

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Because distances are greater and populations are more dispersed in rural areas, funding for rural transportation systems for the elderly should be proportionately higher per trip than in urban areas.

Programs of grants and loans for revitalization, winterization, and modification of housing should be increased to permit independent living of older community residents.

Adult protective services should be mandated in all localities with adequate funding for follow-up care.

Improve health concerns by providing more services and through education

Virginia suggests improving the health problems of the elderly by providing more services and through education. For example, Virginia recommends:

Academic institutions should emphasize gerontological training for mental health professionals.

Older persons and family members should be educated and counseled about the availability and appropriateness of community home-based health and social services in order to make informed decisions about long-term care.

Long term facilities should improve their in-service education among the entire staff, consultants, and volunteers to assure an understanding of social and emotional needs of the residents.

Each local mental health agency must begin to develop new modes for the delivery of clinical outreach services to the elderly such as in-home services and institutional care.

Eligibility requirements for public services should be made more flexible so that service-delivery agencies might augment families and other informal care-givers.

Virginia must develop a human services approach to meeting the needs of the elderly through a variety of community actions to develop alternatives to nursing home care, including a single coordinating information and referral system.

Social concerns can be improved through a combination of programs

Virginia believes the social concerns of the elderly can be improved by focusing on a combination of programs as shown by the following recommendations.

Efforts should be directed by Virginia toward overcoming such barriers as limited income, transportation, physical constraints, and red tape which limit access to education and leisure activities.

State and local funds should be allocated to educational and leisure programs for older adults.

The media, the educational system, and community organizations should increase public awareness about the process of aging and the characteristics of the aged.

Funds should be appropriated for the Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs for the purpose of consumer education, outreach and other activities to acquaint all age groups especially the elderly about consumer frauds, deceptions and prudent purchasing.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED BY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

About 87 percent of Virginia's recommendations suggest improving issues impacting on the elderly on all dimensions through state and local governments and nongovernment sources. However, the Nation recommends using the Federal government to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly (30 percent) with nongovernment sources second (28 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Virginia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal government	2	3	1,215	30
State and local government	26	44	439	11
Federal and State government	1	2	666	16
Nongovernment	25	43	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	5	8	600	14
Total	59	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Virginia believes that existing organizations can provide the assistance needed by the elderly to resolve their health, economic, and social problems (87 percent of their recommendations). This recommendation was also made nationwide (41 percent) as the following table shows.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Virginia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	1	2	577	14
Organizations	51	87	1,651	41
Budget	3	5	767	19
Monitor	2	3	218	5
Research and development	2	3	297	8
Regulators	0	0	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	59	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Forty-six percent of Virginia's recommendations suggest processing as the primary resource necessary for existing organizations to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, whereas the Nation believes more money (36 percent) to be of immediate importance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Virginia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	1	2	313	8
Money	7	12	1,449	36
Process	27	46	1,188	29
Material	2	3	120	3
People and money	18	30	690	17
Combinations of the above	4	7	268	7
Total	59	100	4,028	100

WASHINGTON'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL NATIONAL CONCERNS

We compared Washington's recommendations with those of the Nation and found them to be similar. The following table shows that Washington considers both social and ecomomic issues to be of primary concern to the elderly, (44 and 40 percent, respectively).

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSIONS

Dimension	Washington		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	12	16	639	16
Economic	31	40	2,043	51
Social	34	44	1,346	33
Total	77	100	4,028	100

Economic situation can be improved by reducing costs

Washington, along with the Nation, believes the economic condition of the elderly can be improved by reducing costs. An analysis of the economic dimension shows that 32 percent of Washington's recommendations suggest reducing service costs as the principal method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly, a recommendation also made nationwide (37 percent) as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN WASHINGTON

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Washington		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service costs	10	32	764	37
Taxes	1	3	113	6
Reduce durable costs	5	16	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	3	10	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	2	7	295	15
Nonemployment	6	19	492	24
Combinations of the above	4	13	64	3
Total	31	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

Covering senior citizens for community-based mental health services including outreach to the home, in addition to humane and competent psychiatric hospital care on a sliding fee scale.

Covering senior citizens for dental, eye, ear, hearing and food care and for prosthetic devices.

Providing social services free for those below a certain income level.

Continuing legal services.

Improve social concerns by providing more opportunities or activities and changing the attitude toward the elderly

Washirgton believes social concerns can be improved by providing more opportunities and activities and changing the public's attitude toward the elderly as shown by the following recommendations:

Congress should instruct all Federal departments to change program regulations which discriminate against older women.

The Older Americans Act, which mandates that older persons with the greatest economic or social needs receive preference in aging programs, should be vigorously enforced.

Congress should provide authority and appropriate funding under the Older Americans Act to encourage the self-advocacy programs of senior citizen's organizations.

Representatives of the older population should be regularly involved in public policy decision making.

Improve health concerns by providing more and better services

Washington suggests providing more and better services as a method of improving the health problems of the elderly. For example, Washington recommends:

Health care services should be made more convenient for older persons by simplifying forms, billing procedures, and requirements.

Senior citizens should have full information about their health problems, treatment choices, and probable outcomes.

Federal government should ensure an adequate supply of nursing home beds for those who need them, close to their home community.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Washington's recommendations show the primary source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly is the Federal government, a conclusion reached by the Nation.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Washington		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	56	73	1,215	30
Nongovernment	10	13	1,108	28
Federal and State governments	5	6	666	16
State and local government	1	1	439	11

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS—Continued

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Washington		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Combination of the above	5	7	600	15
Total	77	100	4,028	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH LEGISLATION

Contrary to the views the Nation, Washington believes that legislation can resolve most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly (26 percent of their recommendations) as shown by the following table.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE FOR THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Washington		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislators	20	26	577	14
Organizations	9	12	1,651	41
Budget	17	22	767	19
Monitor	13	17	218	5
Research and development	15	19	297	8
Regulators	3	4	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	77	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Washington recommends increased funding (money) and processing as the primary methods for improving the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, a view also shared by the Nation (76 and 65 percent, respectively).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Washington		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	3	4	313	8
Money	29	38	1,449	36
Material	4	5	120	3
Process	29	38	1,188	29
People and money	8	10	690	17
Combinations of the above	4	5	268	7
Total	77	100	4,028	100

WEST VIRGINIA'S ELDERLY CONCERNS ARE SIMILAR TO THE NATION

West Virginia's issues regarding the elderly are similar to those of the Nation. As shown in the following table, both West Virginia and the Nation believe economic issues to be the primary concern of the elderly (60 and 51 percent, respectively) with social issues being second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	West Virginia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	6	7	639	16
Economic	53	60	2,043	51
Social	30	33	1,346	33
Total	89	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

West Virginia, along with the Nation, believes the economic condition of the elderly can be improved by reducing costs. An analysis of the economic dimension shows that 38 percent of West Virginia's recommendations suggest reducing service costs as the best method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly. This suggestion was also made by the Nation (37 percent), as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN WEST VIRGINIA

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	West Virginia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service cost	20	38	764	37
Taxes	0	0	113	6
Reduce durable costs	9	17	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	3	5	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	9	17	295	15
Nonemployment	12	23	492	24
Combinations of the above	0	0	64	3
Total	53	100	2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how service costs can be reduced include:

A county interagency council, along with the Area Agency monitor service providers, assure that the elderly receive all due benefits and services.

A national policy be developed and implemented that gives priority to the use of Federal funds for services that assist people to remain in their homes.

Transportation funds be distributed equitably to assure availability to even very rural areas and to expand transportation services where none is available.

An additional support system be provided to develop new nutrition sites and explore new service delivery systems.

Improve social concerns by changing attitudes toward the elderly and providing more opportunities

West Virginia believes social concerns can be improved by changing the public attitude toward the elderly and by providing more opportunities. For example West Virginia recommends:

Educate all age groups to clear up undesirable myths.

Portray a more realistic and accurate practice of the aging process by the media.

Reduce barriers such as individual and public apathy, and lack of funds.

Establish a nationwide educational program to eliminate false ideas related to aging.

Make available higher education institutions to the elderly for conferences.

Establish innovative methods to educate consumers through the use of advocacy groups, radio, TV, and neighborhood watch groups.

Reinforce nutrition services by providing meaningful nutrition education.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

West Virginia, like the Nation, believes the source of improvement on all dimensions for issues affecting the elderly is the Federal Government. Thirty-six percent of West Virginia's recommendations suggest the Federal government as the primery source of improvement with state and local governments second.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	West Virginia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal government	32	36	1,215	30
State and local government	23	26	439	11
Federal and State government	9	10	666	16
Nongovernment	21	24	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	4	4	600	15
Total	89	100	4,028	100

As shown in the following table, West Virginia specifies that improvements relating to social issues should be the responsibility of state and local governments, (37 percent) health issues the responsibility of both the Federal government and non-government sources (33 percent), and economic improvements for the elderly should be the Federal government's responsibility (45 percent).

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	2	33	24	45	6	20
State and local government	1	17	11	21	11	37
Federal and State government	0	0	6	11	3	10
Nongovernment	2	33	11	21	8	27
Other	1	17	1	2	2	6
Total	6	100	53	100	30	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

West Virginia's recommendations suggest that most health, economic, and social issues impacting on the elderly can be resolved through organizations already in existance (47 percent of their recommendations). The following table shows the Nation agrees with this recommendation.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	West Virginia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	14	16	577	14
Organizations	42	47	1,651	41
Budget	14	16	767	19
Monitor	15	17	218	5
Research and development	1	1	297	8
Regulators	3	3	213	5
Combinations of the above	0	0	305	8
Total	89	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Unlike the Nation, West Virginia recommends processing as the primary resource necessary to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly (44 percent of their recommendations).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resource	West Virginia		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Process	39	44	1,188	29
People	5	5	313	8
Money	13	15	1,449	36
Material	10	11	120	3
People and money	21	24	690	17
Combinations of the above	1	1	268	7
Total	89	100	4,028	100

WISCONSIN'S ELDERLY CONCERNS ARE SIMILAR TO THE NATION'S

Wisconsin's issues regarding the elderly are similar to those throughout the Nation. The following table shows both Wisconsin and the Nation believe economic issues to be the primary concern of the elderly (50 and 51 percent, respectively) with social issues being second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Wisconsin		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	21	20	639	16
Economic	54	50	2,043	51
Social	32	30	1,346	33
Total	107	100	4,028	100

Economic issues can be improved by reducing costs

Wisconsin recommends reducing costs as well as increasing and/or maintaining income as the best way to improve the elderly's economic condition. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 39 percent of Wisconsin's recommendations suggest reducing costs and 43 percent of Wisconsin's recommendations suggest increasing and/or maintaining income as the primary method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN WISCONSIN

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendation				
	Wisconsin			Nation	
	Number	Percent		Number	Percent
Costs:					
Reduce service costs	15	28	39	764	37
Taxes	1	2		113	6
Reduce durable costs	3	5		209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	2	4		106	5
Increase/maintain income:					
Employment	8	15	43	295	15
Nonemployment	15	28		492	24
Combinations of the above	10	18		64	3
Total	54	100		2,043	100

Specific recommendations on how the economic condition can be improved by reducing costs include:

Design services to enable the elderly to purchase services by using vouchers, voluntary contributions, grants to individuals or funding arrangements which follow the individual across agencies or "systems".

Utilize resources for transportation for the elderly to maintain and improve public and specialized transportation systems for both urban and rural areas.

Title XVIII and XIX funds for outreach, outpatient, and other non-institutional services shall be expanded.

Private insurance coverage for mental health services shall be liberalized for the elderly.

Specific recommendations on how the economic condition can be improved by increasing/maintaining income include:

Investigate the natural support systems for the care of the elderly, especially the family and other natural caretakers, in order to promote and strengthen the role of family and other societal and community resources in providing the least restrictive and most humane care.

Encourage employers and unions to allow both males and females gradual retirement through flexible, expanded employment options.

Consider General Revenue as a potential stable funding source for the Social Security system.

Social issues are concerned with discriminatory practices against the elderly

Most of Wisconsin's issues regarding the social well-being of the elderly are concerned with society's negative attitudes toward aging which are often displayed in discriminatory practices. Examples of some of the social issues Wisconsin is concerned about include:

Discrimination based on age shall be prohibited in all employment practices by state and federal laws.

Public policy and programming, educational offerings, and the media shall be encouraged to help older adults achieve a better self-image and recognize their own potential and abilities.

Elementary, secondary, and higher educational curricula shall include the study of aging within the total life cycle of human development and shall emphasize positive and accurate non-stereotyped views of the elderly.

Improve health concerns by providing better mental health services and more research

Wisconsin recommends providing better mental health services and more research to improve the health problems of the elderly. Specific recommendations include:

Nutrition sites, senior centers, and other congregate settings shall be utilized more extensively for individual assessments, referrals, and group mental health services.

Private enterprise and foundations shall be encouraged to allocate funds for pure and applied research in aging.

Research in health, mental health, social and developmental aspects of aging shall address as a priority issue: maintenance of health.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH NONGOVERNMENT SOURCES

Wisconsin's recommendations, unlike most of the Nation, show the primary source of improvement on all dimensions for issues impacting on the elderly is nongovernment sources. Thirty-seven percent of Wisconsin's recommendations suggest non-government as the primary source for improvement as opposed to 28 percent nationwide.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Wisconsin		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	22	21	1,215	30
State and local government	14	13	439	11
Federal and State government	18	17	666	16
Nongovernment	40	37	1,108	28
Combinations of the above	13	12	600	15
Total	107	100	4,028	100

If we break out the recommendations by dimension, however, we can see that Wisconsin believes the primary responsibility for issues relating to the elderly's health and social concerns should rest with nongovernment sources. However, Wisconsin believes the Federal Government is the best source for assisting the elderly with economic problems.

SOURCES FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	2	10	18	33	2	6
State and local government	0	0	8	15	6	19
Federal and State government	2	10	13	24	3	9
Nongovernment	16	76	7	13	17	53
Other	1	4	8	15	4	13
Total	21	100	54	100	32	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Wisconsin believes most health, economic, and social issues affecting the elderly can be resolved through existing organizations, a belief held by the Nation. As the table below shows, Wisconsin suggests that 46 percent of its recommendations can be carried out through existing organizations, compared to 41 percent nationwide.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Wisconsin		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	9	8	577	14
Organizations	49	46	1,651	41
Budget	19	18	767	19
Monitor	5	5	218	5
Research and development	18	17	297	8
Regulator	6	5	213	5
Combinations of the above	1	1	305	8
Total	107	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Thirty-nine percent of Wisconsin's recommendations suggest increased funding (money) as the necessary resource to enable the providers to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, a recommendation also made nationwide (36 percent) as shown in the following table.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Resources	Wisconsin		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	14	13	313	8
Money	42	39	1,449	36
Material	1	1	120	3
Process	26	24	1,188	29
People and money	7	7	690	17
Combinations of the above	17	16	268	7
Total	107	100	4,028	100

WYOMING'S ELDERLY CONCERNS PARALLEL NATIONAL CONCERNS

We compared the recommendations made by Wyoming regarding the elderly with those of the Nation and found them to be similar. The following table shows the elderly in Wyoming and the Nation are primarily concerned with economic issues (69 and 51 percent, respectively) with social issues second.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY DIMENSION

Dimension	Wyoming		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Health	8	7	639	16
Economic	76	69	2,043	51
Social	27	24	1,346	33
Total	111	100	4,028	100

Improve economic condition by reducing costs

Wyoming and the Nation suggest reducing costs as the best method of improving the economic condition of the elderly. A further analysis of the economic dimension shows that 50 percent of Wyoming's recommendations propose reducing service costs as the principal method of relieving the financial burden on the elderly, a recommendation also made by the Nation (37 percent), as shown in the following table.

METHOD OF RELIEVING FINANCIAL BURDEN ON THE ELDERLY IN WYOMING

Method of relieving financial burden	Recommendations			
	Wyoming		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Costs:				
Reduce service cost	38	50	764	37
Taxes	3	4	113	6
Reduce durable costs	15	20	209	10
Reduce nondurable costs	5	7	106	5
Increase/maintain income:				
Employment	5	7	295	15
Nonemployment	9	11	492	24
Combinations of the above	1	1	64	3
Total	76	100	2,043	100

Some recommendations made by Wyoming to reduce service costs include:

Curtail rate increases for energy costs.

Moderation in doctor, hospital, and nursing home charges.

Continue to develop existing programs with special emphasis on meals 7 days a week especially emphasizing home-delivered meals.

Improve in-home services including homemaker and home health care as an alternative to nursing homes.

Use part of severance tax for services for seniors.

Emphasize services for frail elderly.

Improve social concerns through a combination of programs

Wyoming recommends focusing on a combination of programs to improve the social concerns of their elderly (93 percent of their recommendations). Specific recommendations include:

Extend the hours of the senior centers to include evenings and weekends and extend the planned activities to include exercise facilities, study areas, musicals, etc.

Expand senior center hours to cover 7 days a week.

Organize a community skills bank with all ages involved.

Project a positive image of the elderly.

Bridge the gap between generations through communications, passing on of skills, etc.

IMPROVEMENTS TO BE ACHIEVED THROUGH MULTIPLE SOURCES

Twenty-six percent of Wyoming's recommendations suggest improving issues impacting on the elderly through a combination of sources with non-government sources second (25 percent).

SOURCE FOR IMPROVING THE ELDERLY'S HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Source of improvement	Recommendations			
	Wyoming		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	22	20	1,215	30
State and local government	18	16	439	11
Federal and State government	14	13	666	16
Nongovernment	28	25	1,108	28
Other combinations	29	26	600	15
Total	111	100	4,028	100

As shown in the following table, a breakout of each dimension shows that Wyoming believes a combination of sources could improve economic issues, Federal and state governments should be responsible for improving health issues with non-government sources responsible for improving social issues.

SOURCE FOR IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY BY DIMENSION

Source of improvement	Recommendations by dimension					
	Health		Economic		Social	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Federal Government	0	0	19	25	3	11
State and local government	0	0	11	14	7	26
Fedeal and State government	4	50	7	9	3	11
Nongovernment	2	25	18	24	8	30
Other combinations	2	25	21	28	6	22
Total	8	100	76	100	27	100

ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY THROUGH EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS

Wyoming and the Nation believe that existing organizations can provide and help needed to resolve most health, economic, and social conditions impacting on the elderly (5 and 41 percent, respectively) as shown in the following table.

PROVIDER OF ASSISTANCE TO THE ELDERLY

Provider	Recommendations			
	Wyoming		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Legislator	10	9	577	14
Organizations	63	57	1,651	41
Budget	22	20	767	19
Monitor	6	5	218	5
Research and development	2	2	297	8
Regulator	3	3	213	5
Combinations of the above	5	4	305	8
Total	111	100	4,028	100

RESOURCES NEEDED TO IMPROVE HEALTH, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE ELDERLY

Thirty-three percent of Wyoming's recommendations suggest increased funding (money) as the resource needed to improve the health, economic, and social conditions of the elderly, a recommendation also made by the Nation (36 percent).

RECOMMENDATION

Resrouces	Wyoming		Nation	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
People	4	3	313	8
Money	37	33	1,449	36
Material	11	10	120	3
Process	24	22	1,188	29
People and money	31	28	690	17
Combinations of the above	4	4	268	7
Total	111	100	4,028	100